Before I conclude, I wish to make a statement regarding the publication of the proceedings of the Council. Those of you who had been members of the last Council are no doubt aware that printed copies of the proceedings of one meeting are issued only sometime after the meetings are over. This delay can be avoided if the members would kindly co-operate with the Secretary in enabling him to send to the Press the final edition of the speeches with the utmost possible expedition. Typed copies of the speeches made by each member at a meeting will be made available to him on the morning of the day after the meeting, and the speeches may be returned to the Secretary, with the corrections, if any, within the course of the day. This will enable the final edition of the proceedings of each day's meeting being issued on the third day.

FIXING THE DATE OF ELECTIONS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

I also wish to announce that this House will elect one representative to the Public Accounts Committee and another for the Finance Committee, for the next financial year, on Thursday, the 12th instant, after the proceedings of the day are over.

The elections will be conducted in the same way as in previous years and they will be presided over by one of the Panel or Chairmen.

The House will now proceed to the general discussion of the budget.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan: Sir, I do not find my way to congratulate the Financial Secretary for the Budget statements he has laid before us. Reading between the lines of these statements one cannot help feeling that he regards the prospect with considerable uneasiness.

The Budget estimates for the next year have been prepared on the expectation of a total revenue of Rs 249·48 lakhs and the programme of expenditure chargeable to revenue have been fixed at Rs 246 lakhs, leaving a small surplus of Rs 2·80 lakhs. The receipts from Capital Expenditure are estimated at Rs 4·01 lakhs and the Expenditure on capital side including productive and non-productive schemes at Rs 86·6 lakhs. The amount estimated to be written off in the account of the Travancore Sugars is Rs 1·58 lakhs. That is to say we will have to draw from our surplus fund Rs 34·29 lakhs to meet the capital expenditure; and thereby the Government Account balance will be reduced from Rs 74·29 lakhs to Rs 40·32 lakhs.

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Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, on a point of order. I think the member is reading from manuscripts.

President: Order. Order. Two members cannot speak at the same time.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai Sir, if we are allowed to look to the manuscript let us be allowed to read openly instead of surreptitiously.

President: The honourable member will proceed.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan: In 1104 the Government account balance stood at Rs 170·1 lakhs.

The Financial Secretary appears to congratulate himself that he has introduced a surplus budget for the next year. But going through the statements he has laid before us, I have my own doubts as to the realisation of the prophesy held out by him. The main items of revenue under which the Financial Secretary expects increased revenue are (1) The Land Revenue (2) Reorganisation scheme of the Income Tax Department to prevent leakage (3) The reorganisation scheme in the Excise Department to combat the smuggling of tobacco through the northern frontier. To me these schemes appear to be mere speculative adventures the effect of which has to be judged from the actual results arising therefrom.

Even accepting for the sake of argument that the expectations of the Financial Secretary are going to be realised, I feel constrained to remark that the Financial Secretary does not deserve any congratulation. The merit of a State budget is to be judged not from the surplus or deficit it might bring out. In my humble opinion it has to be judged from the schemes and measures it might contain, which are calculated to enhance the material prosperity of the people. Viewed from this stand-point the statements laid before us are far from being satisfactory.

However much we may say that the economic depression is being gradually lifted, I am inclined to say that our conditions are going from bad to worse. The main stay of our people is agriculture The price level of our agricultural products is rapidly drifting downwards. Most of our people depend upon the income from the cocoanut cultivation. We have become helpless before the well-organised cocoanut magnates of Ceylon. We have been driven out of the foreign cocoanut markets, which we were enjoing as a sole monopoly, and the Ceylon cocoanut dealers have begun to dump our own indigenous markets with their products.

The fate of other agricultural products is not in a way better. The price level of pepper, ginger and other hill products does not indicate any scope of improvement.

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Under the head of Agriculture and Fisheries we are spending on an average Rs 2 lakhs odd annually. When we think of the Agricultural Department the following questions have to be answered. What are the benefits we have derived from this department? What has it done to develop agriculture? Has it in any way helped to enhance the agricultural output of our State? The only possible reply is an emphatic "No.".

From agriculture, if we pass on to the industrial and commercial undertakings, the prospect is not in any way brighter. The enthusiasm of the Government towards big schemes of industrialisation is really appreciable. But it is very regrettable that we are sadly lacking in efficient experts to handle these undertakings successfully.

There are real misgivings about the success of the Pallivasal Scheme. We have already lost a big amount by erecting the power house on unsuitable ground.

President : Rs 3 lakhs out of a crore is the proportion.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan : If proper advice had been taken before launching upon this scheme, these unnecessary losses could have been averted.

President : Proper advice for finding out what was 30 feet below?

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan : The experience we had with the State-Aided Bank, and the circumstances under which the Trivandrum Rubber Factory and the Sugar Factory at Thuckalay had to be handed over to private agencies, indicate the incapacity of the Government to handle such industrial and commercial undertakings.

I am very glad, Sir, that the Government intend to take up the whole transport system and the Trivandrum Cape Service to start with. In this matter, I believe the Government will not overlook the claims of those engaged in these undertakings. Another thing that has to be remembered in this connection is that these undertakings have to be worked out on public utility basis and not merely as profiteering concerns.

Before I leave the commercial undertakings I have to put in a word about the Bombay Trade Agency. Proper care is not paid in working this agency. The apparent reluctance of the Government to disclose the circumstances under which the services of the last Trade Agent had to be terminated all on a sudden has given room for much misunderstanding. On the strength of the confidence and goodwill placed in him by the Government, many of our people entered into business relation with him, and I am given to understand that more than a lakh of rupees is due from him on this account.

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[Mr. M. S. Anirudhan.]

The idea of a University is very wholesome, and I believe with the inauguration of the scheme, the whole system of education may be thoroughly overhauled, giving it a new turn along technological lines.

When I speak of the transport and the university schemes, I am obliged to enter a protest in the name of the prestige and privilege of this House. It is regrettable that the Government failed to take into their confidence the members of the Houses of Legislature before launching on such big schemes of far-reaching consequences. But I am glad that the Dewan has promised to some of the representatives of the people that these schemes may be placed before them for their criticism.

In the process of industrialisation of any country labour has to play an important part. The efficiency of well organised labour is the basis for the success of any industry. The working and living conditions of the indigenous labour are far from satisfactory. The wage level is rapidly falling down. Frequent wage cuts have become a menace to the hearty co-operation between the labour and capital. The most objectionable truck system is freely adopted in many of the factories. The claims of labour are overlooked in the matter of representation in the local bodies and such other representative institutions.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not refer to the principle of communal representation in the public service of the State. It is quite unnecessary to enter into an academic discussion on the principles of communal representation. It is a principle that has been universally accepted throughout India in the matter of representation in legislative bodies and recruitment to the public service. It has been accepted by the Government of India, by all the Provincial Governments, and by the Indian States. The plea for communal representation is only a plea for Communal justice. It is not intended to deprive any community of its legitimate rights and privileges. Nor is it intended to disband from service the members of over-represented communities. Our only request is that, when vacancies arise, the claims of these under-represented communities may be given preference. The only complaint is that most of the appointing authorities belong to the over-represented communities, and when vacancies crop up they push aside the claims of these unfortunate under-represented communities and appoint their own men. It is to avoid these difficulties that a Public Service Commissioner has been appointed. But, it is found that his recommendations are often interfered with and the claims of the unrepresented communities are overlooked. For this the big officers of the Secretariat are mainly responsible. After the

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promulgation of the Public Service G. O., a series of circulars and orders have been issued. These have done away with the benefits of the original G. O. It has been rendered quite useless to those sections of the people for whom it was intended. These facts have aggravated the grievances of these communities, and it has given room for much discontent and unrest. Unless some solution is made to this vexed question, I am afraid communal harmony and goodwill can never be achieved.

Before I close, I have to enter my strong protest against the policy of extending the terms of service of the salaried officers. This is a policy which has to be condemned in the strongest terms. Another objectionable policy of the Government is to import superannuated people from outside, and it is regrettable that most of them have been proved to be much below our expectations.

There is much complaint that the Public Service is tainted with corruption, favouratism, nepotism and communal bias. Instances are many; but I do not intend to disturb this House with specific examples.

With these words, I resume my seat.

Mr T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, on a careful consideration of the budget, I agree to a certain extent, with the Financial Secretary that the budget has been prepared on the most up-to-date principles. But, instead of presenting a surplus budget at the present juncture, he would have done better if the surplus is utilised for nation-building activities. It is an elementary principle of public finance that only the minimum necessary for the administration of the State should be collected from the people, and that spent for the people. At the present time before a surplus could be shown the questions we have to consider are whether the average income of the people has increased and whether the agricultural indebtedness of the people is solved. If these two points have not been achieved, no surplus is warranted.

The observations of the Financial Secretary, that the revenues are likely to increase on account of the Government taking active measures to prevent smuggling, speak volumes against the departments concerned. If the Police and Excise, the two departments of Government on whom we are spending a considerable part of our income, will only be true to the Government, I see no reason why smuggling could not be solved. Much of it could be avoided if the guardians of law and order are free from bribery. It is a well known fact that the subordinate officers- the more the lower down you go—are really encouraging these law-breakers. The same is the case with regard to the evasion of income tax. There is no use of complaining that particular

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[Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail.]

individuals have evaded income-tax in particular years. Sir, income-tax is not a mere moral obligation. It is a legal obligation; and the Legislature has invested the executive with powers to enforce the laws. Therefore, if the Government find it not possible for them to check smuggling and evasion of income-tax, I cannot understand how provision could be made for the up-keep of these departments. Are we to take it, Sir, that the Government is not in a position to enforce their own laws? I think the time has not come for that. As to the question of evasion of income-tax, I must say that the appointment of the new Income-Tax Officer will be a source of blessing to us if he will be able to cure the diseases that are prevalent now in our country.

In this connection, Sir, I may also suggest that the question of evasion and other allied questions could be solved if only Government will purify the services. It is absolutely necessary, if they want to purify the services, that the subordinate officials should be given more pay. It is the subordinate officials who for a mere pittance of some remuneration encourage these law-breakers. Therefore if the Government want to purify the services it is absolutely necessary that the lowest pay in the State should be at least Rs. 20. The question may then arise whether there will be sufficient money for this. My only request is that the money necessary for an increment to the existing pay should be obtained by reducing the pay of the high-paid officers. Our high-paid officers are, I think, seriously thinking of what is taking place outside. In British India the officers have come out with their own suggestions to cut down their salaries voluntarily. I hope that if our officers are also magnanimous like them we will be able to purify the services.

Sir, the observation of the Dewan that money taken out of capital reserves and spent on remunerative enterprises is money gained and not wasted, is sound in principle. What the Legislature and the people expect of the Government is that the money taken out of the capital reserves should be actually spent on remunerative enterprises. In this connection, Sir, I welcome the new industrial scheme of the Government and I support the nationalisation policy regarding the transport scheme. What the Government should see in these capital investments is the interests of the people as a whole. It is highly necessary that in the interests of the people the transport scheme should be taken over by Government. Sir, to me it appears that it is already late, but better late than never. Opposition there may be; justification for the opposition. But the country demands it and it is the duty of Government to go forward with the Transport Scheme unmindful of the opposition of some interested capitalists.

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Sir, in this connection I also suggest that the Government should take immediate steps for the establishment of the agricultural and industrial bank which they are contemplating. Without such a bank it is not possible to improve the agricultural and industrial indebtedness of our people, and it is absolutely necessary that such a bank should come to the rescue of the agriculturists and without that the formation of the Conciliation Boards will be of no use.

It is high time that a new orientation of our educational policy is necessary. I have heard from different quarters that the establishment of a university in Travancore will only increase the number of unemployed. Sir, to this question my only answer is that our university is not going to be a university of the type of the Madras or the Bombay University. Ours is going to be a university not to increase the unemployed but to find work for all the people. In other words, it is going to be a vocational and industrial centre of education. Our university is going to make us real men by imparting physical culture and also by the formation of the University Training Corps.

Sir, there is another side to the picture. At this time, during the course of the general discussion on the budget I think it my duty to bring to the notice of the Government that nearly half the income of the State is spent for the salary of officers, and one important community—the Muslim community—is left out of consideration. The pausity of Muslims in all departments, the utter neglect in some and the complete absence among the high-paid officers not to speak of any departmental head compels me to bring home to the Government that justice is not being done to the Muslim Community. Sir, I am mindful of the statement of the Dewan-President in the Lower House that no member should speak for any particular individual. Sir, I can speak for my community and I think and hope that the Government will not take it that I am speaking for a particular individual when I speak of the only individual of whom I can speak of. May I ask, Sir, whether it is fair on the part of any Government, whether it is poor or rich, whether it is democratic or autocratic, that the only Muslim lady graduate of this community is not entertained in service in spite of the community's continuous cry for the last three years? Is it too much to ask that the Muslim community's request that at least one Doctor should be appointed from among their community should be granted? Will this House believe me when I say that some 25 years back one Muslim from Travancore qualified himself for a Doctor and applied to Government for a job. There was no godfather for him and he was not given a job. He had to go for War service and he returned with added experience. Still he was not

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[Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail]
entertained in service here. Sir, British India was more generous to him. May I ask, Sir, if we, who are in search of jobs, are to go out of our dear country, a country for the preservation of which our forefathers shed their very blood. Is it not a fact, Sir, that out of 99 candidates who passed the Malayalam Typewriting Examination, there was only one individual from the Muslim community and that solitary individual was not entertained in service? I am mentioning these examples to show that from top to bottom whenever there is a question of the appointment of a Muslim his claim is overlooked downright. Sir, I am mindful of the fact that there are certain rules and precedents for appointments. But, I ask whether these rules and precedents are adhered to always. Whenever the Government want to appoint anybody, no rule will come in their way. But when the Muslim applies for appointments, rules, precedents, waiting lists, and I do not know what not, will come in the way. Was not the precedent that magistrates will not be taken from the Bar violated recently? But when the Muslim applied, the precedents will come in the way. The appointment of the Public Service Commissioner has not in any way improved our lot.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know from the member which is the rule referred to by him saying that no member of the Bar shall be appointed as magistrate?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, I said precedent. I think my honourable friend will understand the difference between precedents and rules. Sir, the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner has not ameliorated the conditions of the Muslims nor is he capable of bettering their conditions under the existing rules. The Government have reserved to themselves the power to appoint anybody at any time if they so want Sir, this special reservation of power with the Government to appoint any man to any post is simply to do justice to all. In British India when power was handed over to the people the Governor reserved to himself what is called the reservation right. If it is not to do justice to all, I cannot understand why such a power is reserved with the Government. Those days are gone when the Government shed crocodile tears and said, with lip sympathy, that no Muslim was qualified enough for appointments. Those days are gone. Now we have got members in our community fit enough to occupy any post in Travancore. Sir, we have got some four doctors. We have got about a dozen Law graduates with four to twelve years' practice in the Bar.

Mr. P. I. Simon (*Municipal Councils*): May I know whether it is inclusive of the honourable member himself?

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Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: There is not a single Munsiff from the Muslim community at this time. Will any honourable member of this House question the legality of the action or the justice of the action if the Government appoints one Muslim as Munsiff, one Muslim as Sirkar Vakil, one doctor, one lady teacher, in short, one Muslim in each department.

Due to the benevolent action of Government in regard to fee concession and scholarships, we are able to produce some qualified hands, but the Government, as if to avoid the displeasure of hearing the woes of the members of the community, have come out with G. O. I refer to G. O. R. Dis. 1070/37 Education dated 13th July 1937. This G. O. is to the effect that the half-fee concessions, hitherto allowed, will be continued only if the students are certified to be poor. Sir, I bring to the notice of Government that this condition "provided they are poor" will have the desired effect in the near future. I mean there will be no applicant at all hereafter. More about this when the demand comes. In summing up the grievances of the Muslims, I only say that there is a limit even to patience.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Sir, the Financial Secretary has been able to produce a surplus budget at least to his own satisfaction. There has been an increase in revenue to the extent of Rs 5·62 lakhs and there have been savings to the extent of Rs 2·36 lakhs. When these amounts are added together, we arrive at the figure of Rs 7·98 lakhs and if to this the anticipated surplus is added, we get the figure Rs. 11·52 lakhs which is the surplus that the Financial Secretary has been able to show. No doubt, during the current year we were exceptionally fortunate, particularly in view of the bountiful share that we were able to get from the Cochin Harbour. So far as other incomes are concerned, I do not think there is room for us to be so much satisfied. If there has been an increase in the income or if there has been a decrease, the Financial Secretary ought to have explained why this difference occurred. It shows also that he was erroneous in his forecasts. That also is a reason why we should scrutinise more carefully the budget estimate for the year 1113.

Coming to the actual savings that we have been able to make, the total increase amounts to Rs 9.01 lakhs. If the decrease in revenue that has actually occurred amounting to Rs4·46 lakhs is deducted from the increase, we get a balance of Rs 4·55 lakhs, which is the net increase in our revenues. The surplus of Rs. 3·54 lakhs which we had anticipated last year should be deducted from that amount and then the actual surplus will be only Rs 1·01 lakhs. I do not think it requires any prayer from us nor the touch of a Midas to show this petty surplus.

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[Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair]

So far as our revenues are concerned, no doubt we were able to show an increase of Rs 9·01 lakhs. But considering the fact that during 1111 the arrears due under land revenue amounted to Rs 9 lakhs, the collection of Rs 2·46 lakhs is not one about which we may be proud of. Just now in answer to an interpellation put by an honourable member, the Land Revenue Commissioner stated that in 1111, 2,895 acres were sold in auction for realising arrears of land revenue. If through these coercive steps Government were able to realise Rs. 2.46 lakhs, I do not think there is room for satisfaction. In regard to the increase of Rs ·79 lakhs under income tax, we need not thank any one for showing so much increase in spite of the super-tax imposed on us. The Debt Conciliation Boards-those ameliorative institutions which should have come into operation earlier have been delayed and naturally the increase in the sale of stamps have occurred.

So far as our budget estimate for 1113 is concerned, we have budgeted for an anticipated income of Rs. 249 lakhs which is only Rs 2 lakhs below the figure for the current year. As I have already submitted, this year we have been exceptionally fortunate. This year's income should, on no account, be the criterion for us to draw the next year's budget estimate. When we come to the expenditure side we have provided for an additional expenditure of Rs. 6 lakhs more than this year for the next year. The actual expenditure we have incurred in 1112 comes to Rs 240 lakhs. Next year you have provided for an expenditure of Rs 246 lakhs. There is a bare surplus of Rs. 2·6 lakhs in the Budget of next year. Coming to this surplus I should say that it has been the unfortunate fate of our Government that from the year 1104 till this year, our net Government balance has been steadily on the decline. In 1104, the Government balance was Rs 170·13 lakhs. In 1105, it came down to Rs. 165·57 lakhs; in 1108 it was Rs 119·74 lakhs; in 1109 it dwindled down to Rs 117 lakhs; in 1110 it was Rs 108 lakhs; in 1111 it came down further to Rs. 83.14 lakhs; and in 1112 the balance will be Rs. 74·61 lakhs. If the Financial Secretary's estimate has to be accepted as correct we find that towards the close of 1113, our net Government balance is going to be Rs 40·32 lakhs. On going through the statement of the Financial Secretary before this House last year, I find that he has stated that the net Government balance which may be considered as the irreducible minimum for this Government to function is Rs 46·84 lakhs. Our actual Government balance is Rs. 40·32 lakhs. This year we find him stating that the irreducible minimum is Rs 49·13 lakhs. Whatever that be, it is

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strange to hear the Financial Secretary making a statement in accordance with the irreducible minimums that we have. Our Government balance has gone down actually to oneforth of what it was seven years ago. From the year 1108 onwards our budget has been closing with a deficit. In 1111 and 1112 the Financial Secretary has been able to show a surplus budget. I submit this surplus would not have occurred if it were not for the ingenious classification of the Financial Secretary which he says is consistent with the orthodox canons of finance. If the original classification was adhered to, in 1111 and 1112 and possibly in 1113 there would have been deficits during these years, also.

Sir, before I proceed further I wish to mention a certain fact on which I would like to have enlightenment. At page 30 of the speech of the Financial Secretary, he expects an income of Rs. 7,000 from the Tinctures by selling it. But the Dewan-President in his speech at the Joint Session of the Legislature (*vide* page 7 of Vol. X No. 1 of the Council Proceedings) says that we will get Rs. 20,000 by the sale of tinctures. Thus there is some difference between these two statements. I would like to be enlightened on that.

Since the time at my disposal is limited I shall make a brief reference to one or two matters. The amount at our credit in gilt-edged securities is Rs 155 lakhs whereas the amounts deposited in our Savings Bank account comes to Rs. 190 lakhs which is our liability.

President: That was corrected. It is only Rs. 170 lakhs.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: There is some discrepancy, still.

Sir, I would invite your attention to two other questions that are confronting us *viz.*, the Transport Scheme and the University question. With all the vehemance at my command, I must say that the members of the Legislature were most unfairly treated. Government should have consulted the Legislature before they entered on schemes of such capital expenditure. We should not have been deprived of this fundamental right which we are expected to possess. If the Government had taken us into their confidence they would have had our advice. On the other hand, what we find is that Government have ordered buses and appointed an officer for the university without giving us any information nor have they cared to ask for our permission. I should say that this treatment of the Legislature of the most enlightened State in India is quite unfair and unmerited. (President's bell.)

Mr. K. M. Korah: (*Vaikam, Kottayam and Changanachery cum Peermade*): Sir, the budget has been discussed at length in the Lower House.

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President : Generally, the Lower House is not referred to in those terms. The usual Parliamentary practice is to say simply "in another place".

Mr. K M. Korah : Sir, the budget has been discussed in another place and by my predecessors here. I shall make a few observations on the budget. It was with very great pleasure that we heard from the Financial Secretary that the financial condition of our State is quite stable and sound. On a careful study of the assets and liabilities of the State, I am sorry to say that I have to differ from him. His statement is not quite correct. During the last two years we have taken a loan of Rs. 50·89 lakhs and another loan of Rs 60 lakhs and our cash balance has been reduced by Rs 50·80 lakhs. Now we are going to withdraw Rs 20·36 lakhs from our surplus investments in Gilt Edged Securities. We have already consumed in sinking fund amounting to about Rs. 71 lakhs earmarked to pay for the Quilon-Shencottah Railway. In addition to these, the deposits in the Savings Banks and other institutions during these 2 years have increased by another Rs12 lakhs When we calculate these figures, it becomes clear how far our liabilities have been increased during these 2 years. The deposits in the Savings Banks have to be returned when demand is made. The deposits in the Savings Bank alone come to Rs. 194·44 lakhs. I do not say anything about the deposits in other institutions. Our cash balance at the end of 1113 comes to Rs 49·13 lakhs. Under these circumstances I am led to conclude that our financial condition is not so stable or safe as is stated to be.

My second observation is that the Financial Secretary has been considerably partial to those residing within the Municipal limits of Trivandrum. The Government have already spent nearly Rs. 118·10 lakhs in the course of last 10 years for capital works in Trivandrum, *viz.*, Chackay-Tampanoor Railway Extension, Willingdon Water Works and Drainage Scheme, Town Planning, and Trivandrum Electric Supply and Telephone Schemes. After having spent so much in the course of the last ten years, provision is made in the ensuing year for the following works namely, the Drainage Scheme, Town Planning and Broadcasting and the total allotment comes to Rs. 12·90 lakhs. While this amount has been allotted for important schemes within the Municipal Town of Trivandrum, for means of communication in other parts of Travancore only Rs. 90,460 have been allotted.

Sir, Roads and canals are absolutely necessary and the people are always crying for that. To mention a few examples may I point out the fate of Challackal canal in Changanacherry taluk and the Alleppey-Changanacherry canal in Ambalapuzha-Changanacherry taluks. I am sorry that the Financial Secretary did not think it

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worthwhile to allot even ¼ of what has been set apart in Trivandrum for town planning for the rest of Travancore for means of communication. I concede that Trivandrum being the capital of our State and a place where distinguished visitors come our roads should be in a perfectly good condition. The point which I wish to emphasise is that at least a reasonable proportion of the amount spent here should be set apart for the rest of Travancore. The Financial Secretary appears to be very particular of preparing a surplus budget. At the same time he wanted to make provision for Trivandrum. Therefore it is not surprising that he could not allot amounts for the rest of Travancore.

My next observation is that no provision is made in the budget either to relieve the agricultural people or to improve the present system of agriculture. Government seem to be very much interested in introducing new schemes. However advantageous and profitable they may be, the immediate attention of the Government ought to have been turned to the amelioration of the agriculturists. It is admitted on all hands that 95 per cent of the agriculturists are heavily burdend under debts. I concede that a regulation has already been passed and a sum of Rs. 5·5 lakhs has been allotted for the establishment of Conciliation Boards. But my point is the provisions of the Regulation are quite inadequate to improve the situation. Unfortunately I must say that the rules passed by the Government have practically taken away the good parts of the regulation. Conciliation Boards should be established throughout the whole State so that all the agriculturists who are debtors may take advantage of them. Another point I wish to deal in this connection is about the pecuniary jurisdiction of these Conciliation Boards. It is said that the pecuniary jurisdiction is limited simply because, there is no institution—I mean a bank, in Travancore, which could pay off the conciliated amounts. According to the rules of the Land Mortgage Bank only amounts up to Rs 5,000 could be paid off. The present Conciliation Officers have jurisdiction only up to Rs 5,000, 10,000 and 15,000. Even there if the amounts are conciliated I do not know how the Land Mortgage Bank could pay off that sum. It is my humble suggestion that the pecuniary jurisdiction of these Boards should be made unlimited so that if by any chance any private adjustment between the creditor and the debtor after conciliation could be effected they may take advantage of it. In this connection I may be permitted to say that the big agriculturists of Kuttanad are not in any way benefited by the Conciliation Boards. Most of them are big agriculturists. Their debt comes to very big amounts. My suggestion is that the pecuniary jurisdiction should be unlimited, for the whole of Kuttanad. May I request on behalf of Kuttanad that a separate Board be established for the whole of

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[Mr. K. M. Korah.]

Kuttanad with pecuniary jurisdiction of an unlimited nature. I fear whether I may be failing in my duty if I do not make a reference with regard to the pitiable state of Kuttanad. It seems to me that Kuttanad has been a place neglected by the Government. I do not know the reason for that. I am mindful of the fact that a sum of Rs. 35,000 has been allotted for the construction of wells for the ensuing year. This is the first time in the history of our budget as far as I know that a provision of the kind has been earmarked in the budget. May I ask at the same time whether the Government have allotted any amount for means of communication in Kuttanad? May I know whether any amount has been allotted for preventing the cocoanut palm disease? Sir, that disease appears to be a very contagious one. Unlike other places there is plenty of cocoanut cultivation in Kuttanad. People are having cocoanut cultivations on lands *created* by them for that purpose. Therefore the nature of the amounts that might be spent in connection with the raising of plants on lands can better be imagined than expressed. If the disease is allowed to continue like this say for another 15 years I fear whether we may get even cadjans for thatching our houses.

Another point I wish to refer is about paddy cultivation in Kuttanad. The failure of crops last year is quite unprecedented I turned over the pages of the budget to see whether any mention is made about that aspect of the matter. To my great surprise I found that not even a small amount has been allotted by way of advancing money to the cultivators—I mean the grant of special loans to the Punja cultivators. At this rate I fear how the Kuttanad people could carry on cultivation in the coming year. The next point I have to urge is with regard to the acidity of the soil and the ravages done by the rice swarining caterpillars. Nothing has been done to prevent the ravages. The people of Kuttanad are also subjected to troubles during times of flood. Sir, if you have the kindness to visit Kuttanad during times of floods you can see more or less the severe hardships that the people are subjected to. On a consideration of these facts, the only remedy that I could suggest so that Kuttanad may be benefited is to constitute Kuttanad as a separate taluk. I wish that at least under your administration it may become an accomplished fact.

Lastly I would refer to another important matter. We the members of the Samyukta party have come here with a definite programme of trying to effect communal justice in the matter of appointments to the public service. When we make a demand for effecting justice in the matter of appointments it might appear to

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some that we are a little bit narrow-minded or that we are always harping on this one matter. But that cannot be helped. The system of recruitment to public service has been the chief cause of communal trouble. I mean communal rivalries in the State. The unrepresented communities have been carrying on this agitation for the last so many years. Fortunately, the Government realise the injustice done to the unrepresented communities and passed certain orders to mitigate their grievances. But necessary directions to the appointing authorities have produced no desirable results. At last, the important communities organised themselves and the Government realising the magnitude of the injustice finally issued a G. O. on the 25th June 1935. Subsequently in 1936 a Public Service Commissioner was appointed and till now it is a surprising thing to find that not even a single person from among the unrepresented communities has been appointed in the General and Revenue Secretariat. Well, Sir, it is not the appointment of a Public Service Commissioner or the enactment of certain rules connected with that—it is not such paper transactions that we want. We want something substantial to be done in the matter of redress to the unrepresented communities. Let us hope that under your able administration this problem will be solved in a satisfactory manner.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, I heartily congratulate you and thank you for the initiation of a scheme with the object of granting relief to those who were hard hit by the revision of pay due to the standardisation scheme, namely, the rates of pay of low paid subordinates, drawing Rs 100 and below who form a major portion of the Government servants. I also congratulate you for launching broad and constructive schemes in a bold manner, namely, the inauguration of a university for Travancore, and the Commercial Transport. We have entire confidence in you Sir, that the schemes undertaken by you will be crowned with success. We will be fully justified in our aspiration that the experience gained by you in other countries will be made use of for carrying out the schemes adumbrated here and because of the fact that broad schemes initiated and taken up by you elsewhere were very successful. When the Pykhara Scheme was first thought of by you there was a lot of opposition from the people; obstacles of very serious magnitude had to be overcome for starting the scheme. Now that has resulted in a most profitable venture to the Madras Government.

President: The honourable member will please remember that the time at his disposal is only 15 minutes. By the time the Pykhara scheme is disposed of there will not be much time for the member to speak on the Budget.

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Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Whenever a new policy is proposed or a new scheme is started there will be opposition in the country. Indians are always pessimistic in every thing new. That accounts for the want of success and prosperity of the Indians. The success and prosperity of all western nations are due to their adventurous spirit The western nations always undertake new schemes. They are always pioneers in the matter of starting new ventures and most of them are very successful. Unless we make a bold stand in such directions it may not be possible for us to succeed and prosper. Mistakes may have to be committed and they have to be overcome.

I take this opportunity of congratulating the Financial Secretary also for his clear exhaustive and frank statement on the finances of our State. I am also glad that he has made up his mind to remain here in spite of better attractions elsewhere. I thank the Government for retaining his services.

Sir, in the budget speech we are not told whether the average income of the people has increased, what their present economic condition is. We are not told whether any steps have been taken or going to be taken for ameliorating the condition of the agriculturists especially the cocoanut growers who form the major part of the population in North Travancore. The cocoanut plantations have sustained very severe loss in recent years. The fall in the price of cocoanut products in recent years have affected them seriously and they stand in need of urgent relief.

The imposition of excise duty on cocoanut products is peculiar to this country alone. This duty is condemned by all civilised Governments and economists. It is high time that some relief is done by Government to the cocoanut growers by abolition or reduction of this duty.

Coming to the buget proper I wish to say is that the allotment of Rs. 70,000 for new roads is very inadequate. The country is purely agricultural and the means of communication is one of the important things to be attended to by Government. It is one of the urgent necessities for the agricultural population. In North Travancore the allotment under means of communication is scanty. For the year 1111 provision for new roads was Rs. 1,46,995; for 1112, it was Rs 1,46,150. For the year, 1113 the budget provision is only Rs 72,000 which is less than half of the previous years. There have been agitations for opening new roads and canals on repeated occasions and the Government have not bestowed any attention in that matter. This is a very deplorable state of affairs.

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Then the next subject which I would wish to cali the attention of the House is the inadequate provision for Village Panchayats. No new Panchayats are proposed to be established next year. During the course of interpellations to-day it was replied by the Chief Secretary that notwithstanding memorials and representations from the public that the Government have got reports from the Division Peishkars that there is no necessity for establishing more Village Panchayats. The total rural population in the State as per the census is 45,44,185 and the number of Villages 3936. During the course of interpellations on 3-8-12 it was admitted on the side of Government that there is a scheme before the Government for increasing the Village Panchayats and making them efficient." The present statement is inconsistent and contradictory. It will be seen easily that the nature of the reports submitted by Peishkars we have to see is a sham. What was the trend of the public opinion on the matter previously. Before the Village Panchayat Regulation was passed as Regulation VII of 1100, the Official Member in charge of the Bill when introducing the bill has said as follows : I think it is reasonable and necessary to read a few lines from it.

"There has been a demand in many Sessions of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly from 1912 for the creation of Local Boards with a view to foster and develop local self-Government even in rural areas and its satisfaction has been promised by Government more than once. In 1921, the Dewan, in his address to the Assembly, stated as follows;—"It is under contemplation to widen the sphere of local self-Government by extending it to rural areas... .....It is the intention of Government to create two sets of local bodies. One will be the Village Administrative Panchayat with specific sources of income and definite powers and responsibilities, such as the maintenance and control of local roads and ferries and the supervision of primary education and local sanitation....." This Bill has been drafted with a view to give effect to the aforesaid statement.

"In introducing the Bill, the Official Member in charge said:—,'Everywhere the cry has been that there should be an increased association of the people in the work of administration, and it is with that view that a scheme of local self-government has been started. So far as Travancore is concerned, we have it in the urban areas and that has been in existence for the last twenty five years. But no attempt has yet been made to introduce it in the rural areas. the urgent necessity for its extention to rural areas will be evident from the following extract from the Government of India's Resolution of 1918 on Local Self-Government ;

"The domian of urban and rural self-government was the great training ground from which political progress and a sense of responsibility have taken their start and it was felt that the time has come to quicken the advance, to accelerate the rate of progress and thus to stimulate the sense of responsibility in the average citizen and to enlarge his experience.

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[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar :]

"In accordance with this pronouncement, Village Panchayats have been established in British India in the various provinces and also in other Indian States. So far as Travancore is concerned, the people here have not been backward. In other words, there has not been any want of agitation in this particular matter.

"It will be conceded by the House that however much any willing Government may try to administer to the needs of the whole population of the State and to the innumerable villages in the State, it will not be possible to pay the necessary attention throughout the State .....Therefore it will be seen that on account of the growing needs of the people it may not be possible to satisfy all the villages"

It was with these words that the Bill was introduced in the House. That being the case, Government are convinced that there is real demand for Village Panchayats and there has been repeated requests in the Popular Assembly. The Regulation was passed in 1100. Now nearly twelve years have passed since the Regulation was passed. But till now there are only six or seven Panchayats throughout the whole state. That there has been constant demand for more Village Panchayats is admitted during the course of interpellations. It has been impossible for heads of departments to satisfactorily attend to rural needs. When there is a request from non-official members of this House for certain amenities, in rural areas such as hospitals or roads, we get the usual reply that there is no fund. If the Government would consider this question in all its aspects and start Village panchayats in the various rural areas, much of the responsibility of the Government could be overcome. In this connection I wish to point out to the House what we see in the sister State of Cochin or in other British Indian States. There are a large number of Village Panchayats in British India, Cochin Mysore and Baroda. The provision for Village Panchayats in the sister State of Cochin which has got an income of only a crore of rupees is Rs. 2. 14 lakhs. The amounts which Mysore and other States provide are also very big. The Village Panchayats in those places are doing very satisfactory work there. Government can divert their attention to major items leaving the rural requirements to be attended to by the Village Panchayats. "The Bill is intended for the purpose of fostering and developing local self-government." When such is the object of the Bill why nothing is done in the course of the last 12 years. That is very regrettable. I hope that at least now Government will realise the necessity for more Village Panchayats. The nature of the so called enquiry made by the Division Peishkars is flimsy. When a report is called from the Division Peishkar he naturally sends it to the Tahsildar and finally it is done by the Proverthicar. It all de-

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pends upon the Proverthicar's reports. Memorials and petitions are ignored. Government only look to the report of the Division Peishkar which is based on the reports of the Proverthicar.

I have to submit another circumstance for the notice of the House. There is now the system of paying personal pay to a number of persons in Government service. There might have been justification for personal pay in earlier days. For holding a particular post we had to get down experts from outside and we had to agree to the personal pay demanded by them. Now it cannot be denied that there are sufficient qualified and capable hands in Travancore. We see many Travancoreans holding responsible places outside the State and discharging their duties satisfactorily. As such the system of giving of personal pay, I submit, is unjust and a cause for heartburning and disappointment to people with the similar qualifications. I hope that Government will seriously consider that question in future.

The Municipalities of Nagercoil, Alleppey and Shencotta are to be given a grant of Rs. 30·68 lakhs for water supply schemes of this half is said to be a gift and the other half as a contribution to be repaid by the Municipalities with interest in instalment. This policy is bad. My submission is that the Municipalities should not be granted any gift for enjoying certain amenities. If they want additional amenities they must pay for it. The whole amount may be paid as a loan. Let it be repaid in 50 or 60 years. The free payment of the tax payer's money as a gift is highly objectionable when we see that enough attention is not paid to rural parts. So I request the Government to treat the whole amount as a loan to be repaid at a low rate of interest. The allotment for rural reconstruction is quite inadequate.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : (*Karunagapally, Kartikapally and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*) : I congratulate the Financial Secretary only on the courtly language he has used. I do not so much congratulate him on the Budget he has presented. I expected great things out of it ; new-modelled as it is called, there is no new source of income tapped. Under the claim that he is following old and orthodox canons of public Finance huge items of expenditure are included for schemes of doubtful utility.

Before I deal with the Budget, may I protest against the members of the House being treated as school children by the Government. The Legislature is called together to endorse the Governmental acts, even as Tudor Parliaments. As regards that attitude, I have only to say that we are not unaware of what is happening elsewhere ; and that educationally we are not behind British India. As regards the University we are threatened, as it were, by

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[Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi.]

the Government saying "it is an accomplished fact." We have to take it lying down. We are not expected to utter a word against it. It would appear as if Arch Angel Gabriel appeared before the Head of the Administration and said "Get ye up, Found a University here on the Rock of Palayam". When we ask for details about the University, we get verbose phrases in reply. We are told words reminiscent of an undergraduate's reproduction of Cardinal Newman's essays on "University". Then we are told that our University would teach to make all things from pin cushions to motor bodies. Then we are confronted with certain loose phrases. We are told that our University will keep alive indigenous culture and at the same time imbibe the universal culture and so on. Government would tell us that a University would solve the problem of educated unemployment. How, I ask? Instead of having unemployed men of one kind of education, the University would create another kind of unemployed men. Further, how is the University going to work? Is it a cottage industry of the Government? Is the University going to be a minor Department of the State, something like the Anchal or Co-operative Department? May I repeat here that one essential condition of a University is that it should have academic freedom. How are we going to have it? If at all there was the necessity of a university the proper course for the Government was to come before the House, with a University Bill. Now as it is, we are not told whether the University will be unitary, or federal, residential or non-residential, teaching or affiliating. When we ask for it, we are told that the new University is not going to be of the existing model. That is the only secret we are told. We are told that in some ways, it would excel even Oxford and Cambridge. We are told it would be the best University in this world. We have to believe it. Then one thing! What about the staff? I challenge the Government whether they can point to one professor here, who has extended the domains of knowledge by Research work of any merit; and who has, thereby, some reputation in the world of science or of scholarship? Suppose the local professors are christened as "University Professors"? Would it improve their quality or the quantity of their teaching?

In the years to come, we cannot rely on any great income from Excise with any progressive administration, the income from Excise would be dwindling. With such a decreased source of income and increased source of expenditure for the University, I do not know what the future will be like.

About the Transport scheme, we are told that Travancore Government is getting socialistic, and control of transport is the

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first step towards socialistic Government. It only amuses us. I can assure the Government that we are not in any manner influenced by any capitalist. Some of us are almost indifferent in the matter. Why should there be this needless hurry by the Government and create suspicion in the minds of the people? We wish that the Transport scheme also should not end in the same manner as the Travancore Sugars.

* * * * *

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, a careful reading of the budget reveals two distinctive tendencies on the part of the Government. One is that of drawing indiscriminatley sometimes from the accumulated supplies of previous years for working new capital schemes and the other a persistent indifference to look to the real rural needs of the population. Sir, during the past years ever since 1104 the balances, which ought to have been spent for definitely useful schemes calculated to the progress and prosperity of the agriculturists, have been drawn on steadily with the result that the figure of accumulated surpluses have been come down from Rs. 170 lakhs and Rs. 40 lakhs and odd according to budget for 1113. Sir, I believe nobody will get offended if the representatives show an eagerness and anxiety that not a pie from the hard-earned surpluses is ill-spent or mis-spent. We have now reached in the words of the Financial Secretary, a figure which represents the minimum balance required as regards our cash balance which is expected to stand next year at Rs. 49·13 lakhs. I need not reiterate that nobody need be offended, if I say, that the public are anxious to see that the large amounts of capital expenditure, whether they may be reproductive or otherwise, really do go to advance the interests of the community at large if not in the immediate future, at least in the distant times to come. I may say that some of the schemes launched upon by Government are really splendid but my submission is that no scheme should prove in the long run to be failures or ill thoughtout ones.

Now, Sir, when the Rubber Factory was started high hopes were entertained by the authorities concerned. An expert was also imported on a high salary. But I then pointed out that as long as there was no definite agreement with the expert, as regards the terms of his service, it would be dangerous to continue the factory if the expert had to leave the service, as we had no one who knew the technics of the science. And now the very same thing has happened. Mr. Helen got himself at logger heads with the Government and they were forced to choose either to close the factory or to entrust it to a private concern. As regards the Travancore sugars when in the Public Accounts Committee in 1109

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[Mr. K. R. Elenkath,]

Sir Muhamad Habibullah who it will be conceded is no less a statesman than any other Dewan we had as the head of our administration assured us that the Sugar Factory at Thuckalai was going to be a profitable concern as he had known the exceptional capabilities of Mr. N. S. T. Charry for over a period of twenty years.

President: The honourable member should not reveal what had taken place, by way of conversation, in the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: In the case of the Sugar Factory we are at a loss to understand why a sum of 1 lakh and 58 thousand rupees, the difference between the total sale proceeds and the share value of Rs. 1 lakh and 67 thousand it is written off instead of being credited towards capital receipts. The share amount comes to Rs. 1 lakh and 67 thousand when we deduct the amount written off from the sale value. If it is a sale deed why not this amount be credited to the capital receipts of the State as I said. The right of the Government to get 20 per cent profit I presume is in lieu of the share amount taken by the Government. But as I find it would have been proper to realise the amount from the new company and added on to the capital account receipt of the Government instead of being written off. I appreciate the policy of the present Government of writing off unrealisable amounts instead of keeping bad accounts as is shown in the case of the State Aided Bank on which account nearly 2½ lakhs has been written off.

Coming to the topics of corruption and communal representation in the Public Service, I cannot but say that I do not see any logic in the argument that only low paid officers resort to the practice of corruption. Sir, there are officers drawing big salaries or moderate salaries receiving bribes in the open market. I know Sir, persons receiving bribes for deciding cases in favour of parties and persons who receive bribes to get the auction of lands postponed or avoided. If an auction sale of a property is fixed upon for such officers on receipt of commission from the party see that it is not effected. Now Sir, corruption is rampant in our Service and there is no use in blaming a particular community or rank of service. It is only character and tradition and not mere rank in service that has to account for this. I may not be misunderstood as one belonging to a particular community which is holding a 'kuthaka' in the field of public service when I say that I am not an advocate of communal representation. By adopting the present policy of apportioning offices to several communities and yielding to the agitation of communities Government is not going to satisfy any community. Sir, when we are not having a responsible Government I am at a loss to see any benefit in adopting this policy or safety in public service.

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Sir, I ask who is finally and ultimately responsible for the efficient administration of our country? It is His Highness the Maharaja with the help of his trusted minister. If everything goes well or anything goes ill the final responsibility rests with His Highness the Maharaja and the Dewan; [Mr. Kesavan Nair—*Hear, hear.*] So for the sake of efficiency in the Public Service men of character, ability and efficiency should be employed in Government service. I have heard from persons who had been advocating communalism that disproportionate representation should be allowed to certain communities best fitted for it as far example the Araya communitty in the Fisheries. But I may then say that there are other communities which are by tradition and ancestry particularly fit and deserving to appointments in other departments and there is no logic in taking another and consistent view when it comes to that. For instance, the milltary can be opened primarily to Nairs who have been the fighting class from years past. In that case, tradition and past service of a particular community is to be taken into account. So my submission is that in the matter of recruitment to the military and the police this fact should be fairly countenanced by advocates of communalism if they argue tradition and inheritted talent in the case of some other communities In preference to population basis for communal representation taluk basis and the proportion of revenue from each taluk can be taken as the general basis for recruitment; for them it will serve somewhat to effect equity of economic distribution. That is, in my view, territorial representation is more beneficial and equitable than communal representation. I do not care if a very large number of Christians of Parur or Thiruvalla are given jobs in large proportions and the London Mission Christians in South Travancore are ignored. Neither communal justice or territorial justice could then be done. So also the case with Nairs in North and South Travancore. The attraction for Government service is due to the fact that the income derived by way of salary is steady and descent. Sir, certain communities are being preferred now because there was a time when the whole responsibility of administration rested with them. They then sacrificed their everything for the sake of the country. What I am saying is that for the development and advancement—both material and territorial Nairs had to shed their blood, and Muslims too had their share, and the Christians also had their share, to some extent and the conditions had given them political preference. But that is not the case when the country is in peaceful prosperity. Now Sir, we have no fear of invasion from outside because we are under the safe shadow of British protection. But there was a time when the country was at stake and when the communities in political sphere had to take great risks in discharging their duties. And as a matter of fact if the people of our State are called to the front in the

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[Mr. K. R. Elenkath.]

battlefield, I doubt very much whether there will be clamour among communities to respond to the call.

President: Order, order. The honourable member will see that he does not make any sweeping observations against any community or communities.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, I only say that the present Government service is not invesetd with any serious responsibility risk or danger. Now people clamour for Government jobs for it is the most lucrative employment without industry and risk. Why should this clamour be persistent and irresistible? Because there are three things which are attractive. Firstly, there is the safety and security of service, secondly the income derived is steady and decent and thirdly there is power and authority going along with it which impel respect from the Public.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M. and met again at 2 P. M. with the President in the Chair.

Mr. Kochickal P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, I have to make a personal explanation. In my speech this morning I only meant to say that the tendency of some of the actions of the Government was to promote or to increase bitterness between the different communities in the State.

President: Presiding over this body, it is my duty to see that, in the proceedings, nothing occurs that would savour of anything detracting from the dignity or the importance of the deliberations of this House. In the circumstances indicated by Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi, I am prepared to take the assurance that he has just given.

In the circumstances I think it will conduce to the dignity and proper decorum of this House if the portion of the proceedings adverted to be expunged from the official proceedings of this House; and I order accordingly.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: Sir, I was dealing with the attractions of Government service which have been at the bottom of this clamour for communal representation which some things have to some extent become undesirable and nasty. A substantial reduction of the high salaries of the superior Government appointments and sharing of responsibility at least partially with regard to certain departments with representations of the people will go a great way in minimising the attraction for Government service and consequently of communal clamour to some extent. Sir, I am not against any person or community being accorded justice in service; but I cannot reasonably appreciate the idea of equal distribution according to the number of heads in each community, of all the appointments in all the grades and in all the offices of the departments of

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Government. That is neither practicable nor fair. In a way that will be dangerous also. We cannot expect any officer recruited on communal grounds to be impartial or just ; because there will be the consciousness in him that he owes his appointment to his community. Naturally, he will be inclined to be partial to the members of his community. Sir, the Leader of the Samyukta Party said that there was corruption, favouritism and nepotism in the higher ranks of the public service. I ask him whether the principle of communal representation is not likely to increase such corruption favouritism and nepotism and to make it the order of the day. A few years ago, when corruption on the part of a particular officer in high rank was brought to public notice the members of his community raised the cry that, if a single hair of that officer was touched, the community would rise up and make it impossible for the Government to run the administration. Sir, such things should not happen. It will be in the interests of the Government to see that efficiency alone counts for recruitment to public service. There is nothing to be surprised at the fact that the persons belonging to the communities of Dewan Ramayyan Dalawa and Raja Kesava Das if they have at any time been over represented on account of historical reasons and the traditions of their service to the country and am of opinion that their posting should not be made to suffer on that account by being forced to give up their legitimate share at least in future representation. To penalise the glorious service rendered by their ancestors would be very hard and cruel. Their disabilities, if there is any, could be removed, only slowly.

Mr. C. N Thuppan Nambootiripad (*Jenmies*) : സർ, ഈ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ പന്ത്രാമത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് സെഷനിലാണ് ഞാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ സഹകരിക്കുന്നത്. ഇതിനുമുമ്പു ഒൻപതുപ്രാവശ്യം നടന്ന ബഡ്ജറ്റ് വിമർശനങ്ങളിൽ ഞാൻ സഹകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ആ അവസരങ്ങളിലൊക്കെയും ബഡ്ജറ്റ് നിരൂപണം ചെയ്യുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറിയെ വളരെ കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ് പൊതുവെ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടാറുള്ളത്. ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ആവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ള പുതിയപുതിയ ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ ഒന്നൊന്നായി അന്നത്തെ ബഡ്ജറിൽകൊള്ളിച്ചുകാണാത്തതിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തിയാണ് കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്താറുള്ളത്. എന്നാൽ ഇക്കൊല്ലം ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽസെക്രട്ടറി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ബഡ്ജറിനെ നോക്കിയാൽ ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു കുറ്റാരോപണത്തിന് സ്ഥാനമില്ലെന്ന് കാണാവുന്നതാണ്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ഇ

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[Mr. C. N. Thuppan Nambootiripad.]

ന്നത്തെ നില അതുകൊണ്ട് വളരെ സ്തുത്യർഹമായ വിധത്തിലാണെന്ന് നിസ്സംശയം പറയാവുന്നതാണ്.

രണ്ടുമൂന്നുസംഗതികളെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് എനിക്ക് പ്രധാനമായിപറയുവാനുള്ളത്. അതിൽ ഒന്നാമത്തേത് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെക്കുറിച്ചാണ്. ഈ രാജ്യത്ത് തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മ ധാരാളമായി വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നു. ജനസംഖ്യയും വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നു. തൊഴിലില്ലെന്നും മറുമുള്ളമുറവിളി നാട്ടിന്റെ നാനാഭാഗത്തും കേൾക്കാനുണ്ട്. കാളേജുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം കഴിച്ച് കാളേജുവിട്ടിറങ്ങുന്ന ബിരുദധാരികളുടെ ഇടയിലാണ് അധികമായി തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മ കാണുന്നത്. സാധാരണ കൂലിവേലക്കാരാണെങ്കിൽ അവക്ക് എവിടെയുംചെന്നു ഏതുരൂപത്തിലെങ്കിലും കൂലിവേലയോ തൊഴിലുകളോ ചെയ്ത് ഉപജീവനം നടത്താം. എന്നാൽ അല്പമെങ്കിലും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവരുടെ ഇടയിൽ തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മയും കൂടുതലായി കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇത് ഭയങ്കരമായ ഒരു ഭാവിയിലേക്കാണ് പോയിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. സാധാരണയായി കാളേജുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ചെയ്യുന്നത് ഉദ്യോഗം സമ്പാദിക്കാമെന്ന് ആശിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ്. അതാണ് ഇന്നത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം എന്നതന്നെ തോന്നിപ്പോകും. ഒരാൾ ഏതെങ്കിലും യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയിൽനിന്നും ഒരു ഡിഗ്രി സമ്പാദിക്കുന്നു. അയാൾ സയൻസ് ഒന്നാംക്ലാസിൽ പാസായി ഡിഗ്രിയും വാങ്ങിച്ചു ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഏതു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഒഴിവുണ്ടെന്നു നോക്കുന്നു. ദേവസ്വംഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ആയിരിക്കും ഒഴിവുകാണുന്നത്. അതിലേക്ക് അപ്ലിക്കേഷൻകൊടുക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ സയൻസു പാസായ ഒരാളിന് ദേവസ്വംഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുമായ് എന്തുബന്ധമാണുള്ളത് എന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. അതുപോലെ ബി. ഏ. പാസായിരണ്ടു ആളുകളുടെ അപേക്ഷ വന്നുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഒന്നാംക്ലാസിൽ പാസായതാണ് എന്നു നോക്കുന്നു. ദേവസ്വം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു സയൻസിൽ ഒന്നാംക്ലാസിലോ രണ്ടാംക്ലാസിലോ ഒരാൾ ജയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു നോക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമെന്തെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല. ഇന്നത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസനയം ഇതാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഇവയെപ്പറ്റി ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നല്ലവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലാക്കിക്കഴിഞ്ഞുവെന്നുള്ളത് ആശ്വാസകരംതന്നെ. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഇപ്പോൾ തീരുമാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അങ്ങനെ ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഈ വക സംഗതികൾക്കെല്ലാം ഒരു സമാധാനമുണ്ടാകുമെന്ന് ആശിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്.

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സർവകലാശാലപദ്ധതിയെപ്പറ്റി നമ്പൂതിരി സമുദായത്തിന് കൂടുതൽ സന്തോഷത്തിന് അവകാശമുണ്ട്. നംപൂതിരിമാരുടെ പ്രധാനസ്ഥാപനമായ യോഗക്ഷേമ സഭ ഫ്രാഞ്ചൈസ്-മാണ്ടു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്ന് വലിയ ഭൂരിപക്ഷത്തോടുകൂടി ഒരു റസല്യൂഷൻ പാസാക്കി മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലേക്കും അവിടത്തെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനും അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെടുമ്പോൾ അതിലേക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ള പണം തൽക്കാലം ചിലവാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് വിചാരിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ഇന്നത്തെ മറ്റുപല മുതലായ അടിയന്തിരങ്ങൾ നിറുത്തീട്ടെങ്കിലും ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നാണ് അന്ന് റസല്യൂഷൻ പാസാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ആ സർവകലാശാലാക്കായും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഇപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും നടപ്പാക്കാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതിൽ വളരെ സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. സർവകലാശാലാസ്ഥാപനത്തോടുകൂടി ഈ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗ വഴക്കുകളും കുറയുമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്. സർവകലാശാലയിൽ പല വിഷയങ്ങളേപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള പഠനങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുമെങ്കിലും തൊഴിൽപഠനം വളരെ പ്രധാനമായി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അങ്ങനെചെയ്താൽ ഇന്നു ഡിഗ്രി സമ്പാദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പലർക്കും ഓരോ തൊഴിലിൽ ഏർപ്പെടാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. സർവകലാശാലയിൽ മലയാളഭാഷയ്ക്കു കൂടുതൽ പ്രാധാന്യംകൊടുക്കണമെന്ന് എനിക്കു പ്രത്യേകം അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ട്. ഇന്നത്തെ കൗൺസിൽ നടപടികളും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് സംബന്ധമായ മറ്റുനടപടികളും ഇംഗ്ലീഷിലാണ് നടക്കുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തു് നൂറു ശതമാനം ജനങ്ങളും ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് അറിയാൻപാടില്ലാത്തവരും മലയാളഭാഷമാത്രംകൊണ്ടു കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നവരുമാകയാൽ അവരുടെ അറിവിലേക്കായി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എഴുത്തുകുത്തുകൾ മലയാളത്തിലാക്കി മലയാളഭാഷയെ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കണം. പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം രാജ്യത്തു് കൂടുതലായി നടപ്പിൽവരുത്തണം. ഏതായാലും സർവകലാശാലാപദ്ധതി വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യംതന്നെയാണ്.

രണ്ടാമതായി ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ട് പദ്ധതിയെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് എനിക്കു പറവാനുള്ളതു്. ഇന്നത്തെ ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യത്തിനു പ്രത്യേകമായ യാതൊരു നിയന്ത്രണവുമില്ലാതെ, ഡ്രൈവർമാക്ക് തോന്നുന്ന അവസരങ്ങളിലൊക്കെയാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ അതു് നടന്നുവരുന്നതു്. യന്ത്രക്കാർ ആളെകൊണ്ടു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ട് അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യം ഒരു പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട കാര്യമാണ്. ഗതാഗതപദ്ധതി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഏറെറ

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[Mr. C. N. Thuppan Nambootiripad.]

ടുത്തു നടത്തുന്നപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽസൌകര്യം ലഭിക്കുന്നതാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടു പദ്ധതി ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഏറെറടുത്തു നടത്തുന്നതു വളരെ നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നതന്നെയാണു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു്.

പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളെപ്പററിയും വിമർശനം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതുണ്ടെങ്കിലും പ്രധാനമായി ആയുർവേദ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെപ്പററിയാണു് എനിക്കു പറവാനുള്ളതു്. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ ഒന്നു പരിഷ്കരിക്കേണ്ടതു വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. സാധാരണയായി ഇന്നു് ഇംഗ്ലീഷ് ചികിത്സയെക്കാൾ ആയുർവേദ ചികിത്സയിലാണു് ജനങ്ങൾ അധികം പ്രതിപത്തികാണിച്ചുവരുന്നതു്. ആയുർവേദഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ കാണിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള കണക്കിൽനിന്നു ഈ സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനും ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടുന്നതാണു്. അതിനാൽ ആയുർവേദ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ കൂടുതലായി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതു് വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. അതിലേക്കു് ആയുർവേദ വൈദ്യന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായമനുസരിച്ചു് കുറെ ആളുകളെ നിയമിക്കുകയോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ കൂടുതൽ സംഖ്യ അതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി ചിലവാക്കുകയോ ചെയ്താൽപോരാ. ഔഷധത്തോട്ടത്തിൻെറ കാര്യമാണു് അതിൽ പ്രധാനമായി ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഇപ്പോൾ ഔഷധത്തോട്ടം നടത്തിവരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അതു് തൃപ്തികരമായവിധം നടത്തിവരുന്നുവെന്നു പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ചന്തകളിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന ഔഷധങ്ങളെയാണു് അതിനെപ്പററിയുള്ള യാതൊരു പരിജ്ഞാനവുംകൂടാതെ വാങ്ങിച്ചു് ഔഷധങ്ങൾക്കായി ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തിവരുന്നതു്. ഔഷധങ്ങളുമായി നല്ല പരിചയം സിദ്ധിച്ചാൽമാത്രമേ നല്ലതും ചീത്തയും തിരിച്ചറിയുവാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. അതിനാൽ സമർത്ഥനായ ഒരാളെ വരുത്തി ഇവിടെ ഒരു ഔഷധത്തോട്ടമുണ്ടാക്കുകയും ഇവിടെ ഇല്ലാത്ത അപൂർവമായ ഔഷധങ്ങളെ വിദേശങ്ങളിൽനിന്നു വരുത്തി ഇവിടെ നട്ടുവളർത്തുകയുംചെയ്തു ആയുർവ്വേദത്തെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

മറേറാരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളെപ്പററിയും എനിക്കു് പറയാനുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകൾ വരുന്നഅവസരത്തിൽ അതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു പറയാൻ സൌകര്യമുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഒന്നുംപറയുന്നില്ല. ഏതായാലും ഈയാണ്ടത്തെ ബഡ്ജററു് വളരെ നന്നായിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്നതന്നെയാണു് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം. അതിൽ പല പദ്ധതികളും നൽ

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ദ്ദേശിച്ചുകാണുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അവയെ നടപ്പിൽകൊണ്ടുവരുന്നകാര്യത്തിൽ കൂടെ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് വേണ്ടവിധത്തിൽ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടകൊണ്ട് തൽക്കാലം വിരമിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. K K. Kuruvila : Sir, I do not propose to take up much of the time of the House by repeating what has already been said. I only want to point out one or two facts. You, Sir, in one of your speeches said that one of the main objects of the Government is to rehabilitate the peasantry in this country. I as one who is very much interested in the peasantry had very great hopes as to the methods that would be adopted towards that purpose. I have therefore looked into the budget from that point of view and I have thought that these are the particular departments which deal with the agriculturists.- Agriculture, Co-operation, Industries, Public Health, Sanitation and Protective Irrigation. The amounts that are budgeted for these departments altogether amount to Rs. 9,92,000 odd. Comparing that amount with the budget amounts for the towns, not only of Trivandrum, but of Nagercoil, Alleppey and Quilon also, the amount comes to Rs. 27,74,900. Putting all the amounts for the uplift of the rural part with the amounts that are spent for the development of the towns you find that the amount spent for the development of the towns is about 3 times that for the rural population. If you take the rural population and their need into consideration, I feel that it ought to have been reversed. The amount that ought to have been spent for the country ought to have been 27 lakhs and the amount for the towns 9 lakhs. It is certainly curious that the report for 1111 says that some of these departments have returned the amounts that were given to them. In 1111 the departments of Agriculture, Fisheries and Industries have returned to the Treasury .....lakhs of rupees. Not to remain behind the Education Department has made a saving of Rs 1·15 lakhs. The most curious thing of all is that out of the amount of Rs 10,000 given to the Protector of the Depressed Classes he has spent only Rs 8,383 making a saving of Rs 1.617 for the Department. This seems to be very strange. We from the floor of the House say again and again that the amounts budgetted for the rural population are very small, that a comparatively large amount is being spent on the towns, and yet even out of these small amounts savings are made. This reminds me of the parable of the man who received one talent from his master. He hid it very closely under the ground and when the master came and asked for it he gave the whole amount back. He did not get much approval from his master for that act. I do not similarly want the Heads of Departments to return all the

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[Mr. K. K. Kuruvila.]

amounts this year saying that the rural population is completely satisfied and happy.

One thing more in regard to that. Whenever a cut is made, as is usual the cut is made at the bottom. I am told that when it was proposed to make a cut for the Public Works Department, almost the first thing that was done was to remove the Public Works Section at Vennikulam which was a Section particularly intended for the rural population. This seems to be, Sir, a rather hard method of dealing with the rural population of this country.

Another thing is that as you go from place to place you hear of great complaints from the rural population about getting loans from Government such as the agricultural loans, the industrial loans and other loans. What is the difficulty that these poor people feel? They say that they have got to wait at the doors of one person after another to get these loans. With the strict valuation of property and the difficulty to get the loans, it is not possible for them to make proper use of the loans which Government have kindly proposed to give the people. I am glad, Sir, that in one of your speeches you have said that corruption should be stopped. Those of us who argue on that point cannot give evidence before you as if it were in a court. So long as the law remains as it is, the man who offers a bribe and the man who takes a bribe are equally culpable and why should this man who goes from man to man and who bribes one man after another include one more penalty for his act? You cannot expect, Sir, that a man like that will venture to do that. I plead that if corruption in the country must be stopped it must be on the basis that the people must be free to report to you what they feel to be their difficulty. Now, it may be said that the large amounts that are spent on the industrialisation of the country indirectly help the people. I feel that to a certain extent it may be true. Looking ahead the scheme for the industrialisation of the country will be valuable for the people of the country. But if it is to be really valuable, you must have, Sir, an efficient service. If we look into the failures of any of these schemes, the Rubber Factory or the suger trust, we will see that this is because the service has not been efficient. No Dewan however well-intentioned he may be, and no Government however helpful it wants to be, can really carry out its purpose if it is handicapped by a set of inefficient men. I believe that much of the complaint on this communal question would have been saved if we are absolutely satisfied as to the efficiency of the men at the head. If you had a really efficient man to run the Rubber Factory and if

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he developed it, we would not have been faced with a deficit. We got somebody from outside for this purpose and we found that things were not alright. It is efficiency we want. We always have a kind of suspicion when we hear that yau are getting your man from London or from somewhere else. That is because the man who was in charge of the Rubber Factory has not made it a success. We hope, Sir, that the men whom you invite to this country will not be of this type. If you will excuse me Sir, I will take an analogy from English history. I was reading the other day a comparison between the Tudor period and the Stewart period. It is said that the Tudor Sovereigns on the whole were inferior in point of intelligence and capacity to the Stewart kings. But their failure was absolutely due to the fact that they were unfortunately not able to secure the services of very able men. The Tudor kings perhaps with the exception of Queen Elizabeth were fortunate in securing better and more capable men. If you will attend to this one fact, I believe that much of this discussion of the question of communal representation might have been saved.

I may be permitted also to speak a few words on the University question and on transport. I have always stood for wat you call the nationalisation of industries. Sir, you said you want to nationalise particular types of industries. I may say, Sir, that I am in favour of nationalisation of all types of industries. I remember that at one time the capitalists in this country gave dividends of 80 and 85 per cent. But considering the question of wages I have felt that it was difficult for the labourers who get 4 annas even to get 6 annas, while 80 and 85 per cent. dividends were distributed, to the shareholders. The State need not be entirely democratic if it wants nationalisation, but I have sometimes felt that if the State wants notionalisation to succeed, it must have a very efficient service. If Russia succeeds in nationalisation it is because Stalin is very strict on his subordinates, it is because Stalin would not admit of inefficiency in any department.

I hope, therefore, that whatever be the nationalisation that is attempted, it will be taken in hand by efficient people and that the profit would ultimately go not to the towns but to the rural population and the workers and labourers of the country.

Then about the university. I accept the principle of establishing a university in Travancore as an ideal. The main difficulty is whether it would be possible for Travancore to have a university with the reputation and the recognition which it ought to have. You say, Sir, that it is going to be a specialised type of university with special attention to the technical department. I am surprised to find from the report that—as if it were a start for a technical

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[Mr. K. K. Kuruvila.]

department—the manual training in the Training College and the primary schools are abolished. The Financial Secretary in his report says that a little saving has been made by abolishing the manual training school in the Training College and in the Vernacular schools. What is more, a departmental man has been sent out to study the introduction of technical subjects in the first form of the English Schools. I have not been able to find out what he has done. If you abolish the training classes in the vernacular schools and if you make a small beginning in the first form with a gentleman who has not even visited a few of our aided schools, I do not know how a big edifice can be built upon such a slender foundation. I have heard that in Amercia they erect buildings 60 storeys high beginning from the top to the bottom. But it seems to me that it is impossible to do so here. I think that the special officer must be deputed to look into this part of the question, namely, the recorganisation of the technical subjects before the University question is taken up. I accept the principle of the University but I believe that the foundation must be made firm before it is started.

I wish to speak a word about the Excise Department. The Excise Commissiouer says in his report that the policy of the Excise Department is the gradual attainment of prohibition and the Excise Commissioner has adopted certain methods to realise that policy. But I cannot get the impression that these methods will achieve the desired effects. If prohibition should be introduced gradually in the country, these are not the methods to be adopted. There are two great stock arguments against prohibition. One is that America did not succeed in that. And the other is that Travancore is a country where illicit trade is going on. America is not India or Travancore. And I do not think that that comparison can hold good here. There is another thing. The department complains that it is difficult. I can understand how the department which cannot stop the sale of liquor after the scheduled time can carry out prohibition. If you want really to introduce prohibition, why don't you first stop arrack altogether. Let the sale of arrack be stopped altogether. Then we will deal with toddy. With these few words I resume my seat.

Mrs Aberanam Gnanasikhamony (*Nominated*) ; Sir, I have great pleasure in thanking Government for having given representation to women in both the Houses of this Legislature enabling us thereby to represent our feelings and grievances personally before Government.

I congratulate the Financial Secretary on the clear budget he has presented to us. We are glad to find that Government have made proision for the improvement and extension of the Womens

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Hospital at Taikad, for the appointment of more Health Nurses and Midwives, for the continuance of medical inspection of schools and for rural reconstruction. I wonder whether the primary schools are also included in this medical inspection. I understand that there is a rule in the Excise Department that liquor shops should not be located within two furlongs of a public institution such as school or Church. But the vicinity of such arrack and toddy shops is not a healthy example to the school going children. I therefore entreat the Government to see that this rule is being enforced throughout the State. In the Education Department there is a fund called the Travancore Licensed Teachers, Provident Fund. I am sorry to find that the Vernacular School teachers are denied the benefit of such a fund The Vernacular School teachers in the departmental schools get pension. But the teachers in management shools are denied even the provident fund. These teachers also do the same work as the teachers in departmental vernacular schools We have every reason to believe that during this regime, the management schools and the vernacular schools will not receive a stepmotherly treatment. The primary school lays the foundation of a child's education. In 99 per cent of the cases the teaching in primary schools is done by teachers who hold the V. S. L. C. certificate. These teachers do not have sufficient background as to understand the various new methods of teaching now in vogue. When they awake and just open their eyes, the school year closes. This system of one year's training course especially for the primary school teachers is not at all sufficient. The teachers are not able to do full justice to their training. I therefore request the Government to raise the period to two years. With these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, more than one speaker in this House and elsewhere pointed out as a very interesting feature of the budget that has been presented the existence of the surplus. I have been listening to arithmetical disquisitions as to whether this surplus will materialise or not. When I look at the budget, the most interesting thing I find about it is not so much the surplus or according to some members a deficit, but the most serious, significant and important feature of our finances is that our revenues have definitely become inelastic and our expenditure is growing if we are to meet the progressive needs of the administration. The main question that ought to face those people who want to give constructive suggestions for the administration of the State is how this difficulty can be tided over. Sir, I find that in spite of the fairly large surplus and the peak point of revenue, our revenue side is not as elastic as it should be. We have to find out sources by which we must augment our revenue. No Legis-

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

lature, no democracy for that matter, likes an enhancement of taxation even if it were possible. In Travancore it may be said safely that the agriculturist who pays for the cost of the administration is not able to bear any further increase to his burden. We have to find out new sources. And I must say Government have been at it and have now launched upon a scheme of nationalisation of transport with a view to get a source of revenue which will be expanding. When that question is taken up, vested interests are against it. Government will have to face them. I can understand the vested interests opposing the scheme, because it affects their pocket. But the thing I cannot understand is people who talk on the pretext that they are supporting the interests of the common tax payer saying that this is not a scheme which is liked by the public, that it is not in the interests of the public. With regard to the starting of any scheme, it may be said that because Government failed with regard to the sugars or the rubber factory, they will fail in every undertaking that they take up. That is a pessimistic view of things with which we cannot progress at all. If we think in that way it will all be gloom and no sunshine. But we have to find out some means for meeting the cost of a progressive administration. What are the suggestions for that purpose? Government, after all, is functioning for the people. If you recognise that as the fundamental principle of all administrations you have got the responsibility to suggest alternative schemes of taxation. Government must be carried on. What is the most equitable tax that we can point out? Not that I am finding fault with anybody who has criticised the Transport scheme-but let nobody say that he is objecting to this scheme on behalf of the public or the labourers.

I can understand the objection made, if it is frankly stated that it is on behalf of the vested interests.

I wish to suggest one other industry which the Government may take up to augment their resources—I mean the salt industry. That is one of those industries which the Government ought to nationalise, as soon as possible. It is one of those industries from which a profit can be assured without any chance of failure. For, the profit is made on account of the power of Government, on account of the fact that the Government fixes the price of salt by which a licensee is allowed to sell it. In other words, the Government by imposing a price derive a small profit from their share of salt. I think, when the period of license is over, the Government must consider the question of taking over the supply of salt and making profits from this industry which is a sure source of income

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to Government. So also in the case of the minerals to which the Dewan in his speech alluded to the other day. I think, more than the minerals, more than any other industry, the salt industry is the one in which, the Government can directly and legitimately enter into and make profits. On a rough calculation, I find, even as things are, even as the manufacture goes at present, which is very inefficient and about which there has been a loud and real complaint, if the Government would take up, and nationalise that industry and manufacture salt in the proper way, they will get something between Rs. 9 & 10 lakhs more than the revenue they now get, by way of imposition of duty on that industry. This is a question on which the Government have to enter into, because, it is an absolutely justifiable step.

One should not be lulled into a sense of security by saying that this year's surplus is a large surplus. As a matter of fact, as one looks at the Budget, one is faced with the inelastic nature of our revenues and when we consider the various problems that we have to tackle we have to consider our sources of revenue. As my honourable friend Mr. Kuruvila pointed out, the immediate problem for the Government is to devote their attention to the rural population. How much money is wanted to ameliorate their condition ? How can that money be found ? The Government have to find a source of revenue which will be very necessary for meeting the needs of a progressive administration. I particularly want to suggest to Government and they must also make it absolutely clear and beyond a shadow of doubt, that they have to cut down the expenditure to the margin of efficiency. Because, if the Government want to take public opinion with them as to the necessity of further taxation, or for enhancement of the revenue, to convince a growing democracy, to get real co-operation, the people must be made to understand beyond a shadow of doubt that the Government are husbanding their resources most carefully by eliminating waste wherever possible and by spending money at the margin of efficiency. It is not enough for the Government to say that they have reduced the expenditure to the minimum. They must say that they are not spending a pie more than it is absolutely necessary. That position has to be made absolutely clear, because, a good deal of the consent and co-operation of the people depends upon psychology. That favourable psychology can be brought about if the Government are able to eliminate the suspicion that may exist in the minds of the people without a foundation, or on account of very scanty information regarding the matter.

Sir, I do not wish to repeat many of the arguments that have been touched upon. But I may be failing in my duty, and I

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

would not be frank to myself if I did not congratulate the Financial Secretary on his very lucid and frank statement on the Budget. Sir, we who have been accustomed to the budgets of previous years. know, what a relief it is to read the Budget speech for the year 1113. Before the honourable members think of criticising the Financial Secretary, they must look at the previous budgets when they will find the difference. What a frank statement we have got? The Financial Secretary can well afford to be frank, because, I say that after having carefully looked into the budget, and after having had some experience of looking at it rather critically, I must counter the statement that has been made by my friend on the other side—I mean Mr. Korah, who said that the finances of our State are not sound. Nobody who looks into the Budget, who looks into the assets and liabilities and the clear statement as presented by the Financial Secretary, can lightly say that the fiuances of the State are not sound, not absolutely sound. Sir, the lie direct to that accusation has been given by the subscription of hard-headed business men to the loan that was floated by the Government. Therefore there is no necessity for considering the statement which has been made without sufficient responsibility that the finances of the State of Travancore are not sound. The Financial Secretary who knows the details of the Budget also knows that the people outside the State will look into it critically. I cannot accept the pronouncement of Mr. Korah. It is not fair, it is not right to make wild allegations without sufficient data that the finances of the State are not sound. That is not the responsibility expected of this House. That is not the way in which this House should pass criticisms.

Another statement was also made by Mr. Korah regarding the communal question. I am loath to touch that question or discuss it. But when facts are misrepresented either wilfully or for want of information, I think it is the duty of every member of this House to correct it. It has been stated, I was astounded to hear, that, no appointment was given to the members of the unrepresented community since the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner. Sir, the Public Service Commissioner stated elsewhere, quite authoritatively that about two thousand appointments were recommended by him to Government and the Government had accepted all those two thousand nominations and those appointments were brought into effect. Can anybody in the face of such an authoritative statement light-heartedly say that not a single appointment has been

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made from among the unrepresented communities since the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner ? In other words; can it be said that no member from the un-represented community got a job after the formation of the office of the Public Service Commissioner, They are statements which may be good enough for platforms to misguide the innocent people, but they are not the sort of statement that should be made in a honourable House like this when we have the authority of the statements made by persons who are competent to make such statements. I think, Sir, that such statements ought not to be made in a light hearted way.

I want to discuss at some length regarding certain schemes for Travancore which have been adverted to by some of my friends. No doubt these questions have been engaging the attention of the Legislature very prominently, because, they are things with which the people and their representatives are legitimately interested at this juncture. One point has been made by some speakers, rather a technical point I should consider, that the House has not been consulted regarding these questions before the Government launched upon them. Sir, if it were a fact, if it were in substance true, I would have been one of the first to take objection. Let us take the question of a University for Travancore. The question whether Travancore should have a University or not is not a new one. It was a question that was engaging the attention of the enlightened public of Travancore for the last 25 years. If I remember right the idea that there should be a University for Travancore has been mooted in a former Legislative Council by a non-official member. It was not carried by a majority of the House, but it was accepted by Government. On the suggestion made by the non-official member and after a full consideration and discussion, that proposition was accepted by Government, and the Government appointed a Committee and the Committee reported. These are all facts known to public men in Travancore, known to people who have been living with their eyes wide open. It is not at all a new question to be decided by a few people formally called together. Whether Travancore should have a University or not is what the Government have decided. The nature of the University and the details of it have not yet been decided. The only question that the Government have decided is that Travancore must have a University. In regard to this I am sure, the Government have made the assurance that if and when a University is made and the details are worked out, the people, the representatives of the people, and all interests concerned, will be consulted and their opinions taken. Now it seems to me the criticism is the other way. Why did not the Government bring all

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

these things before the House in the form of a draft bill? That would be doing exactly the opposite of what the honourable member who criticised the scheme is desiring. In a draft bill, the details will be more or less in a solidified condition, and it will be very difficult to modify those things by amendments. That will be prejudging the opinion of this House. There have been various questions like this, on which the Government have taken the opinion of the people. Let him who says that there need not be a University for Travancore collect information with regard to that question If he says that there is no necessity for a University, at this juncture, I must say that he has not valued the earnings of the people of the State for the last 25 years. He has not understood the conditions in which he is living. He is not aware of the passing of the Government of India Act and the section dealing with education which makes it a Federal subject, and therefore it is imperative for Government to evolve a University scheme of their own.

President: The honourable member has only two minutes more.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, both the shape and form of the Madras University hereafter will be changed. Everything will be guided by the Federal legislature in which what representation we have is well-known. Whether a University is necessary or not is to be decided by the size of the territory in which it is located. That question has to be decided on various other considerations. I do not think there is any ground on which this proposal can be attacked. Least of all the technical ground of not consulting the House beforehand. It is easy to rouse up the feelings of the House by saying that they have not been consulted, that they have not been cared for and so on. But it should not be done without a basis. I think, Sir, with regard to a University that charge cannot be levelled.

I am thankful to the honourable member who spoke before me and I must express that before I sit down, I refer to Mr. Kuruvila—regarding the question of efficiency. I think there is a good deal of truth in what he said.

The clamour for communal representation gains point and gets the appearance of a grievance, because the paramount question of efficiency has not always been kept in view in the matter of appointments. If the paramount question of efficiency is not always kept as the sole criterion for appointments it is very legitimate to say that appointments can be made on some other basis.

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As Mr. Kuruvila pointed out, all people who are for the welfare of the State, for the most efficient service at the minimum cost, will stand by efficiency. Government must pay particular attention to the words he has uttered regarding the question of efficiency. All our success depends upon it.

Mr. Hajee Hassan Yacoob Sait: സർ, അടുത്ത വർഷത്തെ ബഡ്ജറിൽനിന്നും ഇവിടത്തെ സാമ്പത്തികനില അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെട്ടുവരുന്നതായി കാണുന്നതു് സന്തോഷകരം തന്നെ. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ സാമ്പത്തിക സ്ഥിതി നന്നാക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ഒരു കടിൽ വ്യവസായ പദ്ധതി നടപ്പാക്കേണ്ടതു് പ്രധാനമായ ഒരു സംഗതിയാണ്. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് കഴിയുന്നത്ര ശ്രദ്ധ ഉടൻതന്നെ പതിപ്പിക്കണം. നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽ സാധാരണ ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ തുടങ്ങി അവയെ കാലക്രമേണ പ്രൈവറു ഏജൻസികൾക്കായി വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുന്ന നയം അനുകരണീയമത്രേ.

ഇവിടത്തെ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കു അന്യനാട്ടിൽ കമ്പോളങ്ങൾ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനു് ട്രേഡിഡ് ഏജൻസികൾ സ്ഥാപിച്ചും മറ്റു വേണ്ട സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. വ്യാജപ്പുകയില വ്യാപാരം തടയുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു കർശനമായ നടപടികൾ നടത്തുവാനുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ നല്ലതും തൽമൂലം ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു് സാരമായി വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നതുമാണു്.

ഫ്ലഡ്-മാണ്ടത്തെ മുതലെടുപ്പിൽ മിച്ചമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്ന പത്തുലക്ഷം രൂപാകൊണ്ടു് ഒരു റവന്യൂ റിസർവ് ഫണ്ടു് സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശം ഏറ്റവും അഭിനന്ദനീയമാണു്.

ഭൂനികുതി പിരിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന ചെലവു് കായ്ക്ഷമതക്കു് ഹാനിവരാതെ കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കുമോ എന്നു നോക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. നികുതി ചുമത്തുന്ന കായ്ത്തിൽ ഒരു നവീകരണവും അതു നിമിത്തം ഒരു ഐകരൂപ്യവും വരുത്തുന്നതിനുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ നല്ലതുതന്നെ.

വില്ലേജുപഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ സ്ഥാപിച്ചും ഗ്രാമോദ്ധാരണ പദ്ധതി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയും ഗ്രാമീണരുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ദുരവസ്ഥയെ പരിഹരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

സിലോൺ കൊപ്രായുടെ മത്സരത്തിൽനിന്നും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ തെങ്ങുകൃഷിക്കാരെ സഹായിക്കുന്നതിനു് അധികാരികളെ സമീപിച്ചു് വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ടകാലം അതിക്രമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു.

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[Mr. Hajee Hassan Yacoob Sait.]

ടെലഫോൺ, ബ്രോഡ്കാസ്റ്റിങ്ങ് ഇവ കഴിയുന്നതും വേഗത്തിൽ നടപ്പാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. പള്ളിവാസൽ ഹൈഡ്രോ ഇലക്ട്രിക്ക് സപ്ലൈയിൽനിന്നും കായംകുളത്തുകൂടി വിദ്യുച്ഛക്തി ലഭിക്കുന്നതിന് വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യണമെന്നുകൂടി എനിക്ക് അപേക്ഷയുള്ളതാകുന്നു.

പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവീസിൽ മുസ്ലീങ്ങൾക്ക് ശരിയായ പ്രാതിനിധ്യമില്ല എന്നുള്ള സംഗതിയിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രത്യേകം ദൃഷ്ടി പതിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

മുമ്പുഭരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പല ദിവാൻജിമാരുടെ കാലത്തും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന് പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിന് പല ശ്രമങ്ങളും നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു സർവകലാശാല സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിന് തീരുമാനിച്ചതിൽ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിനേയും ദിവാൻജിയേയും ഞാൻ അഭിനന്ദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: Sir, I congratulate the Financial Secretary for the excellent surplus Budget he has presented to us. As the honourable member Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai has pointed out the Budget which the Financial Secretary has presented this year is really a vast improvement over the previous years' Budget. He has explained every point, how the various items have been classified and if there is an expectation of an increase of revenue the basis for such expectations. Specific instance is worth mentioning in this connection. During the discussion of the Budget for 1110, I asked explanation from the then Fl. Secretary the reason for the actual fall in 1109 and the anticipated increase for 1110. The answer was that there was a fall of such an amount and that he expected to receive that amount in 1110. The present Financial Secretary does not give any room for such doubts or suspicions. He opens his heart to us and clearly gives explanation for every anticipation. The most important and pleasing feature of the Budget is this. The Government after making adequate provision for nation building activities, for schemes of public utility and lasting benefit to the public, have not taxed additionally the poor agriculturists. That is the point which is most gratifying. Whether in the matter of sanitation, medical relief or other things affecting the welfare of the peasants, we have been amply provided for and yet without resorting to any fresh taxation. I congratulate the Government and the Financial Secretary for such an achievement. How is this achieved? By vigorously pursuing the campaign against smuggling and the evasion of the payment of income tax. This has been pointed out to the Government. I myself had pointed out this to Government and they

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have not been paying proper attention. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees have been lost by Government on that account. I congratulate the Government and the Financial Secretary for the bold venture. The Financial Secretary asked for co-operation in this matter. Any one who has got the interests of the Agriculturists will certainly co-operate with him. The Budget is indicative of a general administrative and Financial policy of the Government What is the future programme? In a discussion of the Budget we are discussing the financial and administrative policy of the Government. But in discussing that policy, the test that has to be applied is whether it is calculated to improve the material and moral needs of the people, how far it serves the needs of the people? That is the standard to be applied. The future programme as laid down in the Budget is to implicitly try to carry out faithfully the message of His Most Gracious Highness the Maharaja communicated to us at the opening of this Reformed Legislature.

This is the message :—

> "There is need for a wide outlook and a patriotism that transcends temporary and accidental barriers of birth and creed and to bring about rehabilitation of our agriculture and the development of our industries and the general levelling up of our standards with a view to secure for our people the peace and prosperity that are the aim as well as the justification of all Governments."

With a firm determination to implicitly carry out this noble ideal Government have launched upon schemes which are calculated to improve the wealth and prosperity of the State. We have also got the speech of the Dewan made at the Joint Session of the Legislature supplementing and explaining the speech of the Financial Secretary. From that speech the future policy of Government is very clear. The prosperity and welfare of the country can only be secured side by side with industrial expansion and industrial progress. The further statement is the most appealing and that is that the lot of the agriculturists can never be improved without subsidiary cottage industries. This is a point that has very much appealed to me. I know as a matter of fact that even persons holding 10 and 12 acres of land cannot get sufficient yield to meet their expenses. Unless subsidiary cottage industries are developed, there is no salvation for the agriculturists. It is with a view to secure this object that the Government have come forward with the University Scheme. That scheme is calculated to secure to the country the impetus for industry. Under the existing University System we are getting educated men unfit for any other work except for Government job. They have not got the impetus for manual work. Under the new scheme of the University the object is to give special training for industrial development and industrial expansion. If that is the object, I am sure your ambition to raise Travancore to the level of Japan by improving the cottage industries will be

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[Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai.]

realised. We do not want the type of University that we were having till now. It is not sufficient to start industrial enterprises here and there. Unless our young men get that impetus, there is no salvation. It is that aspect which has to be emphasised and which our University should strive at. It is very easy to criticise the speech of the Financial Secretary. But it is very difficult to suggest constructive schemes. The responsibility lies in us. The main problem at the present time is how to increase the income of the State. The Head of the Administration, a man with ripe experience and knowledge of the countries in and outside the Empire has given us advice. He is there to guide us. We will follow him and trust him. He has sufficiently explained once or twice in his address, how he is going to work it up.

Therefore, I appeal to the honourable members to heartily co-operate with him in working out the schemes. Sir, there is also another aspect of the budget. We have seen an all-round expansion and improvement and any one who compares the present condition of things with the past will surely be struck with the great improvements brought about in our State. But one sad feature in the budget is the absence of provisions for the relief of poor agriculturists. Sir, in your address you stated that the land revenue problem is one of the most pressing problems and in Travancore there is a great inequality in the matter of taxation. About this inequality of taxation I have been again and again urging upon the attention of Government for the last ten years that taxation in Nanjinad is extremely high compared with the other parts of the State. After the late Honourable Ramaiengar you are the first Dewan to boldly recognise this fact.

President: The Honourable Member has two minutes more.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: I request you Sir, that some suitable remedy may be found out to relieve the poor agriculturists of Nanjinad from the heavy burden of over-taxation and thus do away with the inequalities in the matter of assessment of tax in Travancore. You suggested Sir, that as a remedy you propose to reorganise the scheme of taxation on the basis of income tax. I submit Sir, that is a very fair and equitable proposal and I appeal to you that immediate effect may be given to it. I would be failing in my duty if I don't touch upon the Transport Scheme.

On the principle that Transport is one of the items of public utilities I accept the Scheme. In this connection I may say that certain mis-statements and misapprehensions have been given rise to with regard to the payment of compensation to deserving individual bus owners and as regards the absorption of their workmen. In the interests of the country I appeal to Government that the scheme should be given effect to as early as practicable. We are confident,

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in the light of your address to the Joint Session of the legislatures and your other relevant statements, that there is no reason for any misapprehensions. I plead on behalf of certain deserving people that Government should give them due compensation. With these words I resume my seat.

Mr. N. V. Chacko (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*) : The Financial Secretary began his financial statement in the spirit of "tickle me Toby and I will tickle thee." I am saying this because on page 2 of the Financial Secretary's speech there is some grateful complimentary remarks which seem to be out of place in a financial statement.

On page 10 of the Financial Secretary's speech it is seen that he has referred to the apparent respectability of the capitalists in our place. I don't know whether there are capitalists among the agriculturists of the northern frontiers but I can say that the agriculturists there are really more respectable than they appear to be. Such is the case of the agriculturists everywhere in the world. It is the Government officials that are generally less respectable than they appear to be. The Financial Secretary says that the agriculturists of my place in North Travancore are engaged in smuggling.

President : No such statement seems to have been made by the Financial Secretary.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Sir, the statement is not literally quoted, but all the same it gives an implication as I have said. I am making this observation with reference to page 10 of the Financial Secretary's speech, Your Honour.

President : The Honourable Member is forgetting himself and thinks that he is in a law court.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : I beg the Chair's pardon. Sir, it is stated by the Financial Secretary that smugglers are backed up by apparently respectable capitalists. I may say, that it is not the case ; and 99 per cent of the people there, are quite honest, loyal and law abiding. Smuggling may be done in the dark at night by certain people. But ordinary agriculturists are not even aware of it. What really happens is that respectable persons very often are taken to task for smuggling. I may inform the House that I have no sympathy with the smugglers. I do not even use tobacco in any form. The Financial Secretary says that the amount of consumption of tobacco per head in Parur is only lbs. 2 while in South Travancore it comes to 10 lbs. per head. He might as well have said that the amount of consumption of tamarind in Parur is very much less than that in South Travancore. This difference is due to the fact that the people of Parur do not chew as much as those of South Travancore. Any tobacco that is smuggled may not have been used in the frontier areas also.

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President: The honourable Member is unduly pessimistic about his own locality.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, I am only stating that there is really a grievance for our people there, which must be redressed. The real reason for the carrying on of smuggling is that the officers of the Excise department receive bribes.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai: May I know whether the member objects to the compaign against smuggling?

President: Order, Order. The honourable member will proceed.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Certainly the strictest action could be taken for preventing smuggling and to punish the smugglers. Even if it be regarded as big a crime as murder I have no objection to it. Another reason which induces smuggling is that in Cochin the price of tobacco is very low while at the same time the price obtaining in Travancore, is very high. Therefore it is not strange that some are tempted to take to smuggling. It is something like putting a young man and a girl in a room and asking them to be praying always.

President: The honourable member must know when and where to stop.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: If these excise officers did not accept bribes it would be practically impossible for people to smuggle. It is believed by all people that all the excise officers, (with the exception of the Commissioner) from the Assistant Commissioner to the peon, receive bribes regularly. This is not my own belief but it is the belief of all people in our place. If you want to stop smuggling the first thing you should do is to stop bribery.

Now about the Reserve Police who are stationed at Ramamangalam in the Muvattupuzha taluk. I may here mention one instance which will show how cruel and wanton, the attacks they made on the respectable citizens of the locality there. When they were driving the Police Van along the public roads in an afternoon some people collected around it simply out of curiosity to have a look at the vehicle, for it was a curious specimen of motor vehicle. All the people thus assembled were assaulted all along in roads by the Policemen who got out of the bus for that purpose. Sir, what I ask is could these people be taken to be smugglers? They approached the Police without any fear because they were really innocent. The smugglers who had time to know of the Reserve Police would not certainly approach the Van. Complaints were made by the aggrieved persons, to the Government, the District

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Magistrate and to the Police Commissioner about this, but the grievances are not yet redressed. Now, the poor people ask, is there a Government in Travancore after all? It is no wonder that they ask such a question. When there is a charge against the safety of the person or the safety of property it is certainly the first and foremost duty of Government to enquire into that. Sir, I request you that you yourself should come to the place and see things. This incident is repeated in other places also. The only people who escaped assaults were the smugglers. All the respected people whom the Reserve Police met with were assaulted. You cannot walk along the road with a lantern in your hand if it is dark because you will be stopped on the way and asked why you carried a lantern if you are not a smuggler. If you go without any lantern you will be asked why you did not carry a lantern if you are not a smuggler. Sir, the agriculturists there have to wake themselves up early in the morning at 3 o' clock for agricultural purposes. Even a buffaloe there is said to have been blinded by the Reserve Police. I do not know what part the buffaloe took in smuggling. When the Police Commissioner came to the spot he admitted to quiet respectable people that he was satisfied with the genuiness of the complaints and that he would punish the delinquents. But he seems to have said in the Legislative House that he was not satisfied with them. Sir, what will even the smugglers think of this? They will think that they are much better than the Police Commissioner of Travancore in the matter of honesty. One important thing in Travancore that stands against good Government is that all adumberate cleverness and not character. It is character, and not cleverness that counts. I would request heads of all departments to inculcate this fact in all their subordinates. They must teach them this lesson not by precept alone but by examples also. Sir, even one Jenmi was abducted from the public road and taken to the Reserve Police quarters and made to sign papers denying facts which are patently true. He had telegraphed about the high-handedness of the Reserve Police to the Dewan and other authorities. It was therefore that he was made to sign papers against truth by intimidating him. The Jenmi complained to the District Magistrate about this and that complaint was published in the papers. If Nambuthiri Jenmies are treated like this what would be the fate of the poor agriculturists? With regard to the Reserve Police stationed at Ramamangalam in the Muvattupuzha taluk, the first thing that I want from Government is that these incidents should not be repeated. Then justice should be done to the aggrieved persons. I take strong objection to the statement by the Financial Secretary implying that the people in Northern Frontier parts of

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Travancore are only apparently respectable. All the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja in the Northern Frontier parts of Travancore are really respectable and law abiding. Smuggling is also referred to as a nefarious practice. To buy tobacco from Cochin and to sell it in Travancore is only a technical offence. It does not involve any wickedness.

President: Nefarious, in Latin, only means what cannot be done; 'fas' and 'nefas' mean what can and what cannot be done.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: I referred to the Concise Oxford English Dictionary and there it is stated that 'nefarious' means 'iniquitous' or 'wicked'. (*Laughter.*)

President: That is only the secondary meaning.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, it has already been suggested that the salaries of our officers must be reduced. Hitherto, whenever that suggestion was made, the Government used to reply that the salaries in British India were huge and that the salaries here were comparatively low. But, now, the salaries in British India are becoming very low. Therefore, we also can very well think of reducing the salaries here. At the same time, I would request that the pay of officers of the lower grades should be increased.

This subject takes me on to the question of communal representation which I wanted to avoid referring to. Anyhow, some of my friends have already raised that question, and I also will speak a word or two about it.

It has been stated here today that, according to traditions and ancestry, certain communities had naturally been given more of Government appointments.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath: A word of personal explanation, Sir. What I said was that 'posterity should not suffer if, on account of tradition.....

President: The honourable member made it perfectly clear.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, we have to take into consideration existing circumstances and not past history. If we go back to past history, Darwin tells us that our ancestor was a hairy quadruped probably arborial in its habits.

President: That cannot certainly apply for recruitment to the public service. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. N. V. Chacko: What I mean is that we must take into account existing circumstances and not past history. It is only fair that we have the members of all the communities to sit and work together for the common good of the country. I hope every one

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in the country will sympathise with the grievances of the under-represented communities. I do not think that there is any need to argue that question now, because Government have already accepted the principle of communal representation. Only, they should give effect to that ungrudgingly.

I would also like to urge upon the Government the need for regional representation. To us in the North it seems that, so far as the Government are concerned, Travancore extends only from the Cape up to Quilon, and not further north. At any rate, that is our impression. There is not one women's hospital in the North beyond Quilon, for instance. It would seem as though there are no women in North Travancore. (*Laughter.*) Till recently, it was not difficult for us to get admission to, and treatment in, the General hospital at Ernakulam; but now that has become very difficult. It is highly necessary that lady doctors are appointed in all the hospitals in North Travancore, and a women's hospital is established as early as possible in North Travancore, in some central place like Muvattupuzha or Perumpavoor.

We are also suffering for want of sufficient means of communication. The few roads that we have are not quite fit for the fine cars of the Heads of Departments to pass through, in order that they might realise our needs in the matter. There are short distances which, if opened up with roads and culverts, will make long routes available for easy traffic. I hope Government will look into the matter and do the needful.

Mr. James Fletcher (*Kalkulam* and *Vilavankod* cum *Neyyattinkara*): I congratulate the Financial Secretary on his having presented a surplus budget; and I hope that we will continue to have only surplus budgets hereafter. There has been a steady progress in all directions.

Sir, the condition of the agriculturist alone has not materially improved. He is more and more involved in debts; and, in Travancore, the rate of interest is very high. Measures have to be taken to relieve the agriculturist of his debt. Government have, I know, recently passed the Agriculturist Relief Act and have also established Conciliation Boards at different centres. But, this Regulation is only of doubtful utility. Because, it only provides for the scaling down of debts Sir, that, by itself, cannot give any real relief to the agriculturist. I would suggest to Government the need for helping the agriculturist with the necessary funds to pay off such scaled down debts. Government themselves can undertake to advance loans to the agriculturist, or that can be done through the Land Mortgage Bank, or some other agency. I would prefer the Land Mortgage Bank, because they can ascertain where there is real debt and how much money would be necessary for the discharge of it.

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[Mr. James Fletcher.]

In this connection, I would like to point out that the present rate of interest charged by the Land Mortgage Bank is too high. It is 6½ per cent. per annum. I would suggest that it should be reduced, as early as possible, to 4 per cent. I would also urge the Government to introduce new cottage industries and also to develop the existing ones to relieve the unemployment of the agriculturist during the period between the cultivation seasons. That will to a great extent, relieve the agriculturist of his present poverty.

Sir, Travancore has a teeming population, and we all have a sense of pride and satisfaction in that. It is therefore the duty of the Government to find out means of increasing the wealth of this teeming population of the country. Our cost of living has increased considerably. I realise, Sir, that you have already started many beneficial industries, for the benefit of our people. I would like to lay stress on one industry which deserves special mention. Travancore has a coast line of about 200 miles, and fortunately the sea around has abundant fish. There is great scope for the fishing industry. The Census Report shows that our annual harvest of fish amounts to 90,000 tons of which about two-thirds are consumed locally and one-third exported. Our annual income from export is about Rs. 40 lakhs. I would suggest that this income should be increased by the Government giving some facilities and help to the fisherfolk. Now, the fishermen are steeped in poverty and are living under most insanitary conditions. They form a very backward community and deserve special consideration at the hands of the Government. The Public Health Department will testify to the insanitary condition of the villages in which the fisherfolk are now living and to the fact that these villages are always visited by infectious diseases, and epidemics like cholera and small-pox. These epidemics take a heavy toll of human life every year. An intensive work of amelioration and uplift of this backward community has to be carried on urgently.

I am very glad to find that the Government are alive to the real condition of the backward communities. I would request the Government to include a few non-officials also to co-operate with the Protector of Backward Communities in his amelioration work. I would also request that the coastal village of Poonthurai in this town be made one of the centres for this amelioration work.

Sir, the fisherfolk also remain idle for about 4 months in the year when the sea is rough. Coirmaking, button-making and other industries may be introduced and popularised among them. Non-credit co-operative societies may also be introduced for the benefit

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of these poorfisherfolk. I am sure the improvement of their condition will improve the wealth of the country. I know the Government are very sympathetic towards them. When, recently, in the Muttom village, there was scarcity of water, the moment the matter was brought to the notice of Government, they immediately took it up and sent their lorries for the supply of water to the affected areas. There is scarcity of good drinking water throughout the coastal region ; and that is one of the causes for the spread of disease among these people. I would therefore request the Government to make permanent arrangements wherever possible, for the supply of good drinking water for these poor people.

Another point also I would mention. The State is fortunate in having a great natural advantage in the well-stocked fishing grounds all along the coasts. Full advantage has not yet been taken of this. I suggest that Government may evolve schemes parallel to those now in use in Japan, the United States and other places so that there may be deep sea fishing on a large scale and curing and canning of these fishes for export to outside countries. This will bring a perennial source of income to the State.

I would say a word about the commercial transport scheme. I am glad that Government has embarked on very important commercial schemes. Of these the transport scheme would be a great source of income to the Government. I would support it for the following reasons: The road that is now to be taken is the road from Trivandrum to Cape Comorin and in this road there are about 60 buses plying for hire every day. These buses are using petrol for running. The proposed buses would be Diesel Engine buses using crude oil. These motor buses use each six gallons of petrol on this calculation the daily consumption of petrol comes to 360 gallons and the cost at Re. 1-8 As. per gallon comes to Rs. 540. But crude oil is cheaper and it costs only 1/3 of the price of petrol. So the work will be carried on by Diesel Engine buses at a cost of Rs. 180 per day. There will thus be a profit of Rs. 360 per day. I am sure there will be a profit to the extent of 1 lakh of rupees per year by the use of these Diesel Engine buses on this road alone.

Mr. P. I. Simon (*Municipal Council*) : Sir, we have met to discuss.....

President : Order, order. At half-past four the discussion automatically terminates and I wish to afford two or three more honourable members opportunity to speak before I call upon the Financial Secretary to reply. So honourable members would help in the general discussion and would help their colleagues by being as brief as possible.

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Mr. P. I. Simon: We have met, Sir, to discuss the budget statements for the year 1113, at a time when we feel that we are emerging from an economic strain that has materially been affecting our resources for a long and continuous period from 1105 onwards. The actuals of 1112 show a remarkable betterment of our revenues which helps us to leave a surplus of about Rs 11 1/2 lakhs which is the highest figure on record after 1104. A revenue estimate of about Rs 249 lakhs is therefore but a fair and legitimate estimate for the year 1113 in view of the actuals of 1112 and in view of the improvement of the economic conditions. We have the assurance from the Financial Secretary that he has not made any extravagant anticipation. I would say that this is a superfluity, in so far as knowing as I do the Financial Secretary it would be physically impossible for him to make any extravagant anticipation either towards revenue or an estimate in respect of expenditure. The anticipated fall in revenue is mainly under customs and this amount comes to about Rs 11 lakhs. But for it the revenue for 1113 would have been the highest on record. The one characteristic of the budget which strikes any one is the sort of new life and vigour visible in all that the Government propose to undertake during the next year. There is an active programme of industrialisation with the object of improving the economic conditions of the people of the State. The intention of the Government to rehabilitate the agriculturists and to provide him with some subsidiary occupations in the form of cottage industries has also been declared. A sum of about Rs 98 lakhs has been provided in the budget for capital expenditure on productive and non-productive works. This makes a total investment of about Rs. 4 crores and I congratulate the Government on the very valuable investment they have made. The Government are also trying to increase their revenue by launching effective campaigns against smuggling in the northern frontiers. The increase in expenditure in recent years has been rather very conspicuous. It is about Rs 19 lakhs more than what it was in 1101. It May be said that a progressive administration cannot help spending more and more. But, Sir, the increase in expenditure is, I should think out of all proportion to the progress we have made between 1104 and 1112. Sir, the cause of the agriculturists is advocated in season and out of season, here and elsewhere. I would also join wholeheartedly and say that the agriculturists require relief. Government are doing their best to afford relief to the poor agriculturists. The Debt Conciliation Boards have been formed. But what about the urban population? No voice has ever been heard either here or elsewhere to plead for the urban population. Representing as I do the Municipalities of the State I think it is my

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paramount duty to plead for the Municipalities. According to the last census there are 46 towns in the State with an average population of about 12,000 in each. The proportion of the urban population to the rural population is rapidly increasing. Out of the 46 towns only 17 are organised into Municipalities. Formerly there were 19, including Haripad and Mavelikara, two towns noted for their historic importance, who have ceased to have Municipalities. There are now therefore 29 towns without Municipalities ; Government, I should think, ought to take immediate steps to organise Municipalities in these towns.

The provision in the budget for providing amenities to the citizens in the town is really inadequate. Government have no doubt provided a total of Rs. 15·42 lakhs for water supply to the towns of Nagercoil, Alleppey and Shencottah. There is also a provision of Rs. 7·5 lakhs for the drainage scheme for Trivandrum, and also another provision of Rs. 3·90 lakhs for the town planning scheme. There is also a provision of Rs. 50,000 for grant to Municipalities. The honourable member Mr. Narayana Iyer had condemned the practice of giving grants to Municipalities by Governments. It was on the ground that it is the tax-payers' money that is being given to Municipalities, as if my friend would not recognise the existence of tax-payers even within Municipalities. The municipalities also are occupied by tax-payers and they are also entitled to a legitimate share of the tax towards providing them with the amenities of the town. As one representing the Municipalities I should thank the Government for making all the above provisions. But I should say that they are grossly inadequate in view of the imminent necessities of our Municipal towns. The Municipalities in the State are controlled and supervised by the Government and the principal justification for such supervision and control is that they are still in the process of being organised and are being supported by Government grant. I should think that these Municipalities will outgrow such situation and will grow into autonomous units, themselves. The total provision for grants to Municipalities is, as I said before, only Rs. 50,000 which works up to only Rs. 3,000 for each Municipality. A larger provision could have been made as the development of these Municipalities as useful institutions does require substantial grants. The Trivandrum Municipality of which I am a member has been the recipient of very liberal grants from the Government but still our development has been chequered or hampered a good deal on account of want of resources. We wish to find our Municipalities pulsing with life and energy, bold in enterprise executing on our own initiative policies of far-reaching public importance. But our resources are limited.

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[Mr. P. I. Simon.]

The Government have taken up street lighting, water supply, drainage and town planning. They require a very heavy initial outlay. But the water supply and drainage have to be maintained by us and Government have fixed the contribution we have to make. The town planning scheme recently taken up by Government has had also a chequered progress. The scheme is calculated to beautify the town and make it worth living in. The place where the town planning scheme has been given effect to, I mean the Kaudiar road, can by itself compare favourably to roads in the big cities of Europe. It is gratifying to note that Government have made a provision in the budget for continuing the scheme. There are still other legitimate obligatory functions which may be left to be done by the Municipalities. Government should put us in the way.

I shall make a constructive suggestion. The Municipality of Trivandrum ought to be helped to have a land policy of its own. As at present constituted, even the proambokes are not absolutely vested in the Municipalities. I would pray that Government be pleased to move in the matter and give away all the lands at their disposal to the Municipalities so that they may make a revenue out of the increasing value of lands and avoid direct taxation for enhancing our revenue.

The next thing I wish to bring to the attention of the Dewan is that all the civilised western countries have applied the principle of Municipalisation to economic undertakings. Even in Madras we have been told recently that the corporation is proposing to municipalise the theatres. In general it may be said that Municipal enterprise is favoured when one or the other of the following considerations carry special weight: (1) Where the enterprise is concerned with the health safety and convenience of the public and (2) where the enterprise involves the use of public property as the tramways in relation to the street. Behind all the enterprises, there is the question of powerful financial motive, the desire to raise revenue freely in other ways than by direct taxation. The public utility services are now largely becoming the work of local authorities in Europe and America.

We may also be helped to do something towards the relief of the poor. The poor problem is proving a menace to the dwellers in the towns and something substantial ought to be done to house them. If the Government would help us to have a land policy of our own, we will be able to do it substantially so as to alleviate the

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problem of the beggars in the towns. Also we will be able to provide public parks, playgrounds and other conveniences and amenities for the town dwellers. As the time is up I shall deal with the matters that are left under the varions demands that are to be made in the ensuing days of the sitting of the House.

Mr. Eric Hall (*Travancore Planters*) : Sir, when I came here I did not intend to speak at this stage. But I got my inspiration from the several speakers who spoke on the Financial Secretary's very fine budget and the speech which he made in elucidating it. I consider the budget as a progressive budget. In all progressive countries at the present day expenditure is tending to increase and I am sure Travancore is not going to lag behind. Otherwise it will not be progressive but going back.

Mention has been made of Government reserves being made use of for capital expenditure. That is what I call progress. Money should make money. Money should work. Money which is buried in the ground is no good to anybody. Therefore, the budget is a sign of progress. It is impossible in framing a budget to satisfy every one. The object of the Financial Secretary should be to satisfy the majority as far as possible. From the speeches of several members of this House I think that the budget has been a very great success.

I have few remarks to make on certain items. In the matter of the University I admit that education is a necessary thing. But there is a possibility of the results of our education being not beneficial. Unemployment has been a result of education. After this University comes into being there is a possibility of unemployment increasing. But there is a means of preventing this, and the method has been suggested by you, Sir, in your speech to the Joint Session of the Legislature. The curriculum of the University should be such as to ensure not unemployment but employment. It should not be as it has been in the case of Ceylon. It is said that in Ceylon a man goes to the University College, passes the Matriculation Examination and take his degrees. The Principal said the other day, "they are ashamed of their fathers." Let not the students of the University of Travancore be ashamed of their fathers. Let them go and receive the benefits of the University, and work if necessary with their fathers.

On the question of smuggling, I have no experience of smuggling and therefore I cannot go into the details. But it is quite obvious from the speakers that there are whole-time smugglers. Taking that for granted, I would suggest that a little increase be given to the subordinate staff of the Excise Department whose duty it is to detect smuggling. That will have the desired effect. It is

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[Mr. Eric Hall.]

also said that bribery is rampant there. I do not think there is any doubt about it although I have not given any bribe myself. I think that bribery and corruption may be obviated by a slight increase in remuneration to the subordinate staff. This is a line of action which I merely suggest.

The Government of Travancore has to be congratulated the way on which it has got rid of the rubber factory and the sugar factory.

With regard to the P. W. D. I, am constrained to complement the department on the work it has done, not within the past year or decade alone but during the last two and a half decades during which period I have considerable experience of the work done by the department. Several new bridges have been opened, new roads and new buildings constructed.

I have nothing more to say since the time is short. Again, I congratulate the Financial Secretary on his very able budget.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar (*Nominated*): Sir,—

President: I can give you only four or five minutes.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: Sir, I also congratulate the Financial Secretary on the surplus budget. It is significant to note that neither the revenue has been over estimated nor the expenditure under-estimated. I welcome the university and the transport schemes. But I have to point out that in preparing the scheme for transport, the difficulties that people now experience will not be lost sight of. The sitting accommodation in the present buses is very uncomfortable, the fares are not steady, protection from weather is meagre, the behaviour of the staff is most undesirable. Government will have to see that such a state of affairs will not be found in the new scheme. Government deserve to be congratulated in having been successful in placing the burden of conducting the Rubber Factory and the Sugar Factory on private firms.

The relief to the lower subordinates who have been hard hit by the standardisation scheme is adequate. In this connection, I may also point out certain undesirable features of the standardisation scheme. For instance, both the Head Accountants and the Deputy Tahsildars in the Taluk Offices are in the cadre of Rs. 40-70. At the same time, the Deputy Tahsildar is superior in rank to the Head Accountant. But there are cases in which Head Accountants draw a higher salary than the Deputy Tahsildar. Similarly, some second judges draw a lower salary than the munsiffs whose judgments go to the former for appeal.

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The fact that the financial condition of our State is very stable has to be conceded. But if that state of affairs has to be continued, we have to be on the alert to have a surplus every year. (*President's bell.*)

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I rise to say a few words in reply to the criticisms made by some of the honourable members.

The first point made is that our balance is decreasing. Sir, our, balance was built by the accumulated surpluses of the past, and it is only right and proper that that surplus should be repaid to the tax payers in the shape of beneficial and ameliorative schemes. This is what has actually been done. I have myself pointed out in para 58 of my budget speech that we have spent as much as three crores of rupees in recent years on development schemes. Our capital expenditure was confined to commercial, industrial, developmental and productive works of a public character, and in creating assets of lasting public utility which will benefit the future generations. That is the proper financial and administrative policy. The money raised from the people should be returned to them in a shape which will benefit them. Further, capital expenditure has also given certain indirect beneficial results. In addition to providing increased amenities and conveniences to the public at large, during the course of execution of certain works, by the employment of labour, unemployment has been mitigated to a certain extent and the level of wages has also been raised. Thus, both directly and indirectly the capital expenditure has resulted in primary and secondary benefits to the people. Further, the capital expenditure was incurred with the sanction of the Legislature in the several years. I may say Sir, that it has been the consistent policy of the Government to consult the Legislature in every case of capital expenditure.

Sir, hoarding is after all a negative virtue and spending for the benefit of the people is a positive achievement. There need be no cause for pessimism at all and no criticism need be made that the financial condition of the State is not good, because as I have indicated that the policy pursued has been to spend on schemes beneficial and ameliorative to the people.

The criticism has been made that there is a surplus this year and that the policy of having surpluses is wrong. It will be noticed from the budget that we have spent almost all our reserves. we have therefore to build up a reserve. In all States and countries the aim is to have a surplus. Our surplus this year is only nominal. So there is nothing wrong in it.

The point was brought up that our Savings Bank liabilities are not covered by assets. Sir, as will be seen from page 12 of the

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[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

budget, the Savings Bank liability amounts to Rs 194 lakhs, The investments in Gilt Edged Securities of the Government of India amount to Rs. 216 lakhs. So that the whole of the Savings Bank liability is covered by the Gilt Edged Securities.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know from the Financial Secretary whether the whole of this sum is invested in Gilt Edged Securities ?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswmi Aiyar : Yes, Sir. The whole of the sum is in Government of India Gilt Edged Securities which are first class. Even out of the 194 lakhs shown in the liability side, only 70 lakhs represent the amount on ordinary accounts due to private individuals. The balance represents fixed deposits private accounts, security deposits and amounts due to devaswom fund etc.

As I said elsewhere, even if there is a run on the Government for the return of the deposits held in the Savings Banks, the Government are in a position to meet them. There need be no apprehension in the minds of members on that point.

I may incidentally explain with reference to the observation of one honourable member about communal representation. Of course. it is a controversial subject and I am not going to enter into that now. With reference to what was said here, I shall briefly explain the practice followed in the Government of India- Communal principle is applied in regard to direct initial recruitments only it is not at all applied to promotions. It is held that vested interests should be respected and that promotions should be made in strict accordance with seniority and merit. That is what the Governments in British India have stressed over and over again.

One honourable member pointed out in regard to the Sugar Factory, why there should be a write off in respect of receipt. The point is this. The Government had invested on it about Rs. 4 lakhs and odd. The factory was working at a loss for several years and the defecit was accumulating. The total value of the ysets as shown in the balance sheet did not represent the true aste of affairs. The sum representing the difference between the staount invested in the concern and the sale proceeds was written a mas capital loss.

Mr. K. R. Elenkath : When the total amount invested in the concern was Rs 4 lakhs old why is it now stated that the Government have given the concern for only Rs. 3 lakhs odd ?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar : We have already said that the difference of Rs 1·58 lakhs has been written off as capital loss.

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Mr. K. R. Elenkath: What about Rs. 80,000 mentioned in the speech?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: That was the sum offered for purchasing the rights of all the share-holders in the Company. Such a transaction was brought about, because, the Government had to enter into a new arrangement with the Travancore Sugars.

Another honourable member said that there exists too much of personal pay in the salaries of officers. Personal pay in several cases is mostly due to standardisation in salaries recently effected by Government. An officer who was in receipt of particular salary for a series of years, in spite of standardisation, his pay was not affected. He had to be given the old rates of pay drawn by him. That accounts for personal pay in several cases as pointed out by the member.

Then some members criticised that the allotments set apart for public works were not sufficient. That is not correct. The usual provision has been made. More money has been allotted than in the previous year. For instance, provision for new and incomplete works, including the one to be met from the Road Fund, in the next year, is over Rs 6 lakhs, on which over Rs 3 lakhs represents provision for new works. As a matter of fact, the Government have provided more funds this year than last year under the heads Public Works Department, Medical, Sanitation and Education.

One honourable member took exception to the use of the words "apparently" respectable capitalists in connection with the smuggling of tobacco. What I meant was that the people who connive at smuggling and who act illegally cannot be deemed to be respectable in the eye of law. The term was not intended to people to whom the cap does not fit.

Several demands were made for purposes such as peasantry, agriculture and allied matters. I can only say that with the inexorable limitations on finance at our disposal, all that is possible has been done. When the finances improve, more allotment will be thought of in those directions.

Regarding the reduction in the rate of interest in Land Mortgage Bank, the whole question of the future of the Bank is still under consideration of the Government. The point raised by the member will also be considered in that connection.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: At page 2, of the budget estimates under Revised Estimate for 1112 I have a doubt. The figures in that column when totalled up give a different number

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

than the one shown there. Will the Financial Secretary please explain that?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: Probably there may be some clerical error. I shall look it up.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Why should there be grants to municipalities?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: It is undoubtedly the policy of Government in all places to make grants to municipalities. According to the funds available with Government, such a contribution is made. Even a premier corporation such as the Madras Municipal Corporation depends on Government grants, There is nothing novel about it.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Will the Financial Secretary please enlighten me regarding the allotment under Tincture Factory?

Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar: The observations of the Dewan President, as referred to by the member, were made in one of his earlier speeches. But when the negotiations were concluded, Rs. 7,000 was the figure arrived at.

President: There are two minutes more for winding up this part of the debate.

Mr. K. M. Korah: I rise to offer a word of personal explanation. When I said in a most emphatic way that not even a single appointment has been made in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Service Commissioner, I meant about appointments made in the Secretariat. If I have not made it clear, I wish to do so, now.

Mr. Abdul Tayeb Sheikh Kaderbhoy (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Though the debate has practically closed now, I wish to offer a few remarks. I do not know whether I am right. But all the same, I request the permission of the Chair to speak a word. I congratulate the Financial Secretary for presenting a surplus budget but we have to wait till the close of the year and see whether it gives any surplus or not. I welcome the action of Government in regard to the University question.

In the matter of Transport I have my doubts whether their venture will be a success. Our Government in most of their undertakings have failed. It may be that some other Governments have succeeded in that. It does not follow therefore that this Government should imitate that.

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One honourable member suggested that the manufacture of salt should be undertaken by Government. In that case, all the business of the merchants in this country will also be recommended by others to be run by Government. In that case, we merchants will have to go away to some other country for carrying on our trade. There will be nothing for the merchants to do in this country.

President : That is not the object of of this Government

Mr. Abdul Tayeb Sheikh Kaderbhoy ; I only wish to draw the attention ot Government how far similar suggestions could be made with advantage.

Legislative Business.

President : The House will now proceed to the discussion of the Legislative Business in the Agenda.

THE TRAVANCORE GENERAL CLAUSES REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Sir, I beg to move that the Travancore General Clauses Regulation (Amendment) Bill as passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly be taken into consideration.

This Bill seeks to effect certain changes more or less formal in the designations of the law officers and the chief Medical officer of the State. It will be noticed from the Bill that the "Head Sirkar Vakil" is proposed to be designated hereafter as "Advocate General," and the "Assistant Head Sirkar Vakil" and Sirkar Vakils as "Government Pleaders" ; and, the chief Medical officer who is now designated as "Darbar Physician" is proposed to be designated hereafter as "Surgeon General". I am sure that the honourable members will notice that these changes in designation are in consonance with the designations adopted in sister Provinces. In regard to the "Advocate General" particularly the predecessor of this House has passed a measure to convert the "Vakils" into "Advocates." It is only in the fitness of things that when 'Vakils' come 'Advocates,' the Head Sirkar Vakil should become the Advocate General". In this connection I wish to draw the attention of the honourable members to the time, when this change will come into operation. The operation clause lays down that the measure shall come into force on such date as 'Our Government' may appoint in that behalf by Notification. The idea is that these changes should take effect immediately after the Vakils become 'Advocates' by the Bar Council Regulation being put inte operation. This Bill which is a purely non-controversial measure will I trust be accepted by the House.

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